



# Country and Western MUSIC

All About Local and Nashville Stars

VOL. 1 NO. 40

CINCINNATI

MIDWEST-EAST EDITION

INDIANAPOLIS

ASHLAND - PORTSMOUTH - LOUISVILLE - DAYTON - LEXINGTON - COLUMBUS - HUNTINGTON

OCTOBER 26, 1972

## MASCOT AWARD WINNERS RECEIVE RECORDING CONTRACTS

WHY  
A WEEKLY  
COUNTRY  
MUSIC  
NEWSPAPER?  
SEE PAGE 25



**Bobby Mackey**  
**Mascot Award Winner,**  
**First Artist Signed By**  
**The Tellet Country Label**

Tellet Country, part of a new C & W complex owned by Lefty Fizzell and Ralph Spicer, announced the signing of Bobby Mackey, Mascot Award Winner, to an exclusive recording contract.

Mackey, produced by Eddie Noack, is the label's first artist and his record, I WISH I COULD b/w IF I HAD AN ANGEL TO LOVE is already on the market, Spicer said. Noack will represent the label in Nashville.

"This is no sudden move on our part", Spicer added. "We have had a registered label for

almost a year looking for the right artist and material to start things off, and we believe we have found a winning combination with Bobby Mackey as our first artist."

Spicer, who is headquartered in Cliffside, N.C., said the label already has nation wide distribution and mails to all C & W DJs.

Aside from the recording company, Frizzell-Spicer Enterprises plans to have publishing houses in all three performance societies, along with a recording studio in North Carolina.



**Bobby Mackey and Jenny Robbins**  
**Are Signed As A Duo Team**  
**On The Tellet Country Label**  
**Each Will Have Separate Contracts**

If you're sitting in the audience when Jenny Robbins delivers a song, you, like anyone else will stop whatever you're doing to enjoy the fine talent that this young lady has to offer. You will find yourself applauding with everyone else, it's just the natural thing to do.

When Jenny Robbins stands before or holds a microphone she gives every song she sings a heart full of feeling, just the way you and I enjoy hearing it.

She started singing at the age of six and won first prize of ten dollars in a school contest when she was nine years old. She sang her way through school in Kentucky where she

was born.

She has appeared on the Renfro Valley Barn Dance on numerous occasions and from that stage she sang on the air for the first time.

Later when she moved to the Cincinnati area she heard of a friend playing in a nearby nightclub. She went there to say "hello" and was invited upon the bandstand to sing a song. That song opened another door for Jenny Robbins in country music. She was hired that night by the owners of the club where she stayed for the next five years doing what she loved, singing country music.

She went to Nashville and

recorded her first record "Blury Eyes of Wine" at Bradleys Barn for the "K" ARK label. This record called for personal appearances from her many new fans so Jenny found herself on WLW-TV's Midwestern Hayride as a guest, and WXIX-TV with Barbara Mandrell and Bob Luman. She has appeared on the stage with opy stars Jack Greene, Jeannie Sealey and Ernest Tubb to name only a few.

Jenny is now singing in a big night club near Cincinnati called the Apple where she is featured with one of the finest

Continued on Page 2





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*All About Local and Nashville Stars*

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An Independent Publication devoted to news and promotion of Country & Western music and to those who provide or enjoy it.

## Our Sweetheart of the Week

# CHARLENE DAVIDSON



### CHARLENE DAVIDSON

Charlene Davidson was born in Hazard, Kentucky and if the truth was known, she probably sang instead of cried when the Dr. spanked her. Although none of my family ever made music a profession, I often sang with my Mom & Dad & sister.

"I remember the first guitar I ever had. It was a gift from my Dad on my 11th birthday. It was something I'd wanted for a long time."

I got my first job singing in a club with Bobby Land and the Nashville Bound. I worked about 6 mo. and then decided to get married.

I started going to different clubs around the area and sitting in whenever I was invited. I sat in with Red Jenkins and the Country Lads at the Apple

several times, then later on was hired & featured as their female vocalist. I've done Country shows with Nashville stars such as George Morgan, Leon Ashley, Margie Singleton and Jimmy Skinner.

Three years ago, went to Nashville and cut some background work on a record that was but by another local artist.

My favorite past time is meeting once a week at Ginny's home with Evelyn where we just pick the guitar & sang till the dogs start howling, then we know it's time to quit!

I'm currently working at the Beautiful Blvd. club, along with Ernie Vaughn and his band. Four nights a week, Thursday thru Sunday.

Just Released On The  
**TELLET COUNTRY LABEL**  
**Bobby Mackey**  
"I Wish I Could"  
B/W  
"If I Had An Angel  
To Love"  
Produced By EDDIE NOACK  
Buy It - You'll Like It

Continued from Page 1  
country bands you'll find anywhere; Red Jenkins and the Country Lads. With this band Jenny shares vocals with the fabulous young singer, Bobby Mackey.  
Happiness has many ways of finding a person and Jenny Robbins is a person that finds happiness just by singing.

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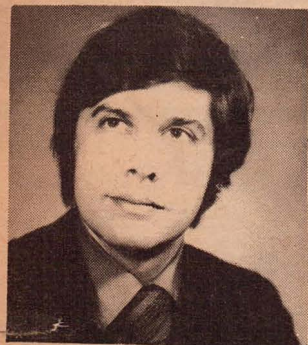
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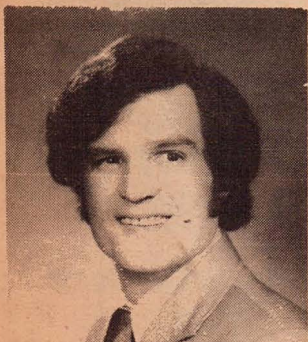
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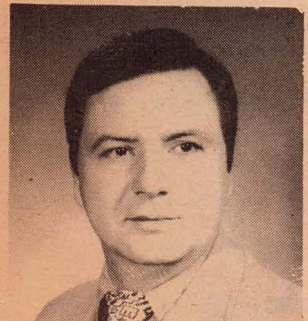
WUBE TOP TEN



PAUL O'BRIAN



DAVE SCOTT



JOHN R. W. WAILIN

THIS  
WEEK

- 1 Funny Face
- 2 Borrowed Angel
- 3 If You Leave  
Me Tonight
- 4 Burning Love
- 5 Garden Party
- 6 Baby, Don't Get  
Hooked On Me
- 7 This Much A Man
- 8 Hobo's Lullaby
- 9 My Man
- 10 Don't She Look Good

- Donna Fargo  
Mel Street
- Jerry Wallace  
Elvis Presley  
Rick Nelson
- Mac Davis  
Marty Robbins  
G&R Scruggs  
Tammy Wynette  
Bill Anderson

LAST  
WEEK

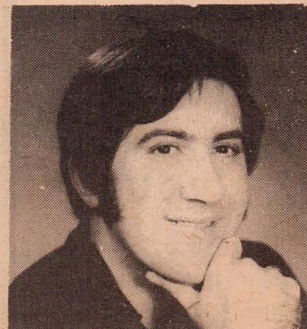
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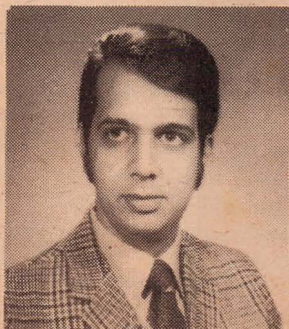
JACK RENO



LARRY B



DAVE BUNCE



JACK STAHL

## Don Cherry The Singing Sports man

If you want a sub-par performance in golf the man to see is DON CHERRY.

If you want an above-par performance in song the man to hear is DON CHERRY.

DON CHERRY is a talented pro in both fields. He explains his sports-arts versatility with a touch of levity; "I say singing is my hobby and golf is my living. But I have to work harder at my hobby to keep up my living."

Seriously, Cherry's status as a recording artist is (and has been) comparable to his eminence on the golf course. He ranks equally high as an entertaining vocalist as he does as a low-scoring play-for-pay linksman.

A native of Wichita Falls, Texas, where he attended Midwestern College, the personalbe blonde, hazel-eyed, 5 ft. 11 in. 170 pound, baritone now leads an almost nomadic existence as a result of his dual profession.

"I don't call anywhere home now," he explains, I live everywhere; in the air, in autos traveling down highways, on nightcluf floors, in television, radio and recording studios . . . and on golf courses. Oh yes, I sleep in motels and hotels from coast-to-coast." And he isn't kidding.

Cherry's schedule includes competing in major PGA sponsored tournaments throughout the USA, and singing at the swank niteries of New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Las Vegas, Houston, Miami, Dallas, Atlanta, etc.

He has guested on the top network Tvers . . . Ed Sullivan, Johnny Carson, Jack Parr, Steve Allen, and was on the Arthur Godfrey programs for several years. He sang the famous "Mr. Clean — Mr. Clean" commercial which was heard on radio and TV stations for eight years. "It was the biggest and cleanest thing that ever happened to me," he says.

Singer CHERRY is probably best remembered for his best-selling "BAND OF GOLD" "THINKING OF YOU", "VANITY", "CHANGEABLE", and other disks of other years.

Golf-wise CHERRY won the Canadian Amateur in 1953, and was a member of the U.S. Walker Cup team in 1953, 1955 and 1961, which defeated the British in each match. He finished third in the U.S. Open at Denver in 1960. Cherry turned pro in 1963 and since that time has been a purse-winner on the PGA circuit.

Prior to his Monument affiliation, CHERRY was with two major labels (Decca and Columbia). "I actually started out as a country music singer, recording Ernest Tubb type tunes" he advises. Don got his start in a Dallas nightclub (now long gone) working for \$35 weekly. "I sold sporting goods by day and sang by night. It was my first moonlighting" he recalls.

Later, after chucking the sales job, he traveled around the country playing small clubs and for a period was on WSM's "Sunday Down South" weekly radio program.

Steve Poncio of Houston (his manager for recordings) recommended him to Monument's president, Fred Foster, and CHERRY is now shooting and singing for hits with the Nashville Sound.

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by JIMMIE HELMS

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801 16th AVE. SOUTH  
NASHVILLE, TENN.



line. I've started an album of all the guys and gals that have been sending me their pictures (136 so far), and will send you a FREE Country Music Newspaper for your snapshot. So till next week, this is Jimmie Helms sayin' so long from Music Row, and KEEP IT COUNTRY... Jenny Jamieson... I love you.



YOU ARE GOING TO  
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Nashvilles Dick Blake has closed the deal with Isom Long for the acquisition of the Hubert Long Talent Agency. Purchase does not include the two office buildings (SESAC & CAPITOL), owned by Mr. Long in the Music Row Area. Long time booker, Hubert Long, died recently of a brain tumor. No figures were quoted, but rumor has it over a Million Dollar Deal. The Hank Williams baby is due next month. It will be Hank Jr.'s first by this marriage... Del Bryant, son of Boudleaux & Felice Bryant, has joined the staff of BMI... MGM Billy Walker performed last week at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage Alaska, his second booking there in three months... RCA Connie Smith will wed Marshall Haynes, a local telephone employee Oct. 21st at Rev. Jimmie Snows Evangel Temple. Connie says "We met in Church, and he's everything I've been praying for."

Mrs. Dourough of Paducah Ky. writes, "I love the new Heck Ramsey TV series with Richard Boone. Who is the Country singer that sings the theme song?" Jerry Wallace sings the Hec Ramsey theme, and it is written by Nashville's Jerry Chestnut, one of Country

Music's Top songwriters. Rumor has two other possible TV Themes to be "Nashville written".

Loretta Lynn was presented an award in Kings Mountain, North Carolina recently by Tom Brooks proclaiming her the "Artist of The Decade". It was the first date I'd worked since blood poisoning in my leg, and I had a ball working with Loretta and her great group. As always, she did a great job to a packed house of Country Fans.

Mega artist Sammi Smith set for an extensive tour of England, which includes a concert at Londons famed Royal Albert Hall. Sammi has a great new album out on Mega.

Jean Shepards husband, Benny Birchfield, presented her with a fancy wedding band, to celebrate their 5th wedding anniversary. They're one of Nashville's happiest couples.

Several dozen letters have piled up on my desk asking the same questions about Songwriting, so even if for the second time, let me clear the air for the benefit of songwriters wishing to send their songs to Nashville. Rule number one: only send your songs to well known companies you've heard of for years. All of the bigger companies I know of are honest and

hard working, that's how they got BIG! Send your songs on a home tape recording (one instrument and voice, guitar, piano etc.), seven and one half speed, along with a typed set of lyrics. This is so the publisher can study your words while he listens to your tape. If you're sure your dealing with an honest publisher, DO NOT copyright your songs. There's so much red tape to transferring a copyright, unless you have a possible Smash, most publishers don't feel it's worth fooling with. They will pay all costs of copyrighting, Demos, etc. Don't send just words. I don't know of any publishers that furnish co-writers. Just words are not songs, and publishers are not looking for poems. It's best to get with someone in your area that plays an instrument, and finish your efforts. Don't send your songs to Stars, some may have their own publishing companies, but most will return your efforts.

Don Gibson's wearing a set of cuff links these days that were given to him by President Nixon. I don't know how big a Country Fan the President is, but evidently he digs Don Gibson, who of course, has become a Legend in Country Music... Murv Shiner & Shirley Mitchell

Jones will be wed in London Ontario Canada... Andy Griffin will MC the Columbia Epic Monument dinner Oct. 21st at the Municipal Auditorium during the DJ Convention... The Carl Smiths celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary. Married to Goldie Hill, Carl spends most of the time on his ranch, works only about sixty days a year on the road, by his own choice.

My new Parthenon record is on the press "Goldie" (Is an oldie but a Goodie), sure hope you like it. It's written by myself and Grant Townsley, who helped me write "She's Lookin' Better By the Minute." We wrote it over two years ago, and with his permission, have been holding it for a Jimmie Helms record. I need the strongest I can get, and up tempo Hits are hard to come by. We also wrote "Bloomin' Fools" and the Cal Smith Hit "The Difference Between Going And Really Gone", so maybe we'll get lucky with this one. Grant is a great writer that lives in Poplar Bluff, Missouri. As impossible as it seems, we wrote "Lookin' Better" on the telephone, bill was \$37.00!! Well, THAT'S SHOW BIZ!!

If you have any questions about Nashville, drop me a

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B/W  
"If I Had An Angel  
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VOCALIST

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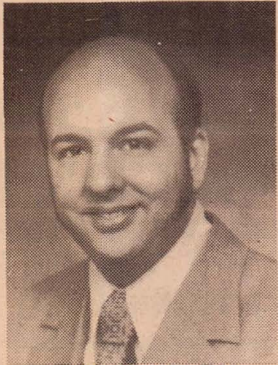


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CITY



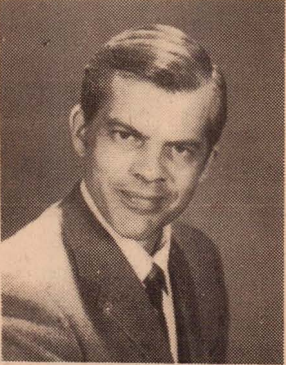
RUSS CARTER  
12:45 to 6 a.m.



BOB HEYDEN  
7:45 p.m. to 12:45 a.m.



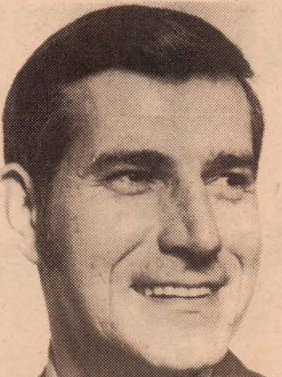
KEN SPECK  
4:15 to 7:45 p.m.



GALEN SCOTT  
9:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.



LEE SHANNON  
1 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.



BILL ROBINSON  
6 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

ALL-  
AMERICA  
MUSIC  
FOR

THE  
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CITY

THIS  
WEEK

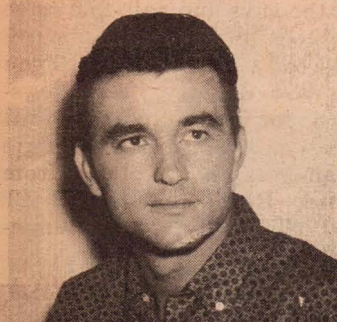
- 1 I Ain't Never
- 2 This Little Girl Of Mine
- 3 If You Leave Me Tonight
- 4 Oney
- 5 I Can't Stop Loving You
- 6 Funny Face
- 7 If It Ain't Love
- 8 Missing You
- 9 When The Snow Is On The Roses
- 10 Class Of '57

Mel Tillis  
Faron Young  
Jerry Wallace  
Johnny Cash  
Conway Twitty  
Donna Fargo  
Connie Smith  
Jim Reeves  
Sonny James  
Statler Bros.

LAST  
WEEK

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- 13





# Song Writers Showcase

By Arvey Webster

AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS YOUR SONGWRITING ABILITY

## TURN AND WALK AWAY

Moderately Slow

Words and Music By - HERB ROGERS

Your mind is all made up, My arms hold you good-bye. Your  
 heart can't tell me why you go, Mine won't e-ven try. Your  
 dreams no long-er live here and I won't have you stay. Just one more kiss be-  
 fore you go, Then be on your way. This is good -  
 bye I hope it rights the wrong. You're free, Go your way, though you  
 take my heart a - long. A dream with-out wings has no will to fly, As  
 time goes by, Will fall and die, It can-not try a - gain. So  
 as you turn to leave me, Fears run through my mind, There is no - one to  
 take your place, And no-one will I find To al-ways love and care for, To  
 love day af-ter day. So take my hand be - fore you go, Then  
 turn and walk a-way. Your So take my hand be -  
 fore you go, Then turn and walk a - way.

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B/W  
"If I Had An Angel  
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Produced By EDDIE NOACK  
Buy It - You'll Like It

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BY KEN SPECK

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TUNE IN  
4:15 to 7:45 p.m.

Hello darlins' ... you can hardly believe all the happenings here in WIRE country over this past little bit. First was the BIG Fall super show spectacular at the Fairgrounds Coliseum. Well over twelve thousand WIRE country fans jammed into the big old hall to witness some of the greatest talent in our business. Jerry Wallace was fabulous. The Bill Anderson Show with Jan Howard, and Jimmy Gately and the Po' Boys capped off a perfect day of entertainment. When Bill was singin' his latest record "Don't She Look Good" ... a three hundred pound, hairy legged boy, wearing women's clothes brought the house down by prancing around the stage. His name was Jon Potter ... a friend of Bill Andersons ... at least until then ... and I'm sure that WIRE'S Bill Robinson dreamed up the whole thing ... and just stood around looking as innocent as a bear in a jelly jar. He would do that. Tompall and the Glaser brothers were simply great ... they are my kind of people. When Jeanne Pruett sang "Love Me" ... Lee Shannon tried to ... and the crowd loved it. All the WIRE country gentlemen kept moving about in the crowd ... meeting people and it made for a great week end. Can't wait for the next show.

Don't you forget the next big Caravan trip to Nashville is coming up real soon ... and if you never have been on one of the tours ... you just haven't had any fun. WIRE'S Bob Heyden will be hosting the tour on November 17 - 18 - 19 and it's a real reasonable price for three days of super fun. It's all first come, first on the tour ... and there will be only two buses ... so don't be left at the station. Write or call Bob at the radio station ... and then pack your bags.

A bit about music ... Mel Tillis topped the WIRE 14 and 30 Hit Survey with a song almost as old as he is ... "I Aint't Never" ... Have you heard George Jones singing "A Picture of Me Without You" ... ?? Well ... you will hear a lot of this one. Porter and Dolly have a new album and it has been picked as a WIRE super album ... it's called "Together Always". Many good selections on this one.

Well you just keep those cards and letters comin' in ... if anybody asks ... tell them about your country ... WIRE.



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Singer-composer Bill Anderson, the country music superstar, is a major TV personality, a top recording artist for Decca Records and a concert performer whose name spells box-office success wherever he appears.

A star of the famous Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Bill enjoys vast national popularity. With country music's universal appeal today, Bill's admirers are small-towners and cosmopolitans, youngsters and adults, lovers of country, folk and rock music.

He is the star of his own weekly television series, "The Bill Anderson Show", which is seen in 126 cities coast to coast and is the most widely syndicated country music show in television. Bill also appears frequently as a guest star on

TV's top variety shows, including the Johnny Cash Show, CBS-TV's Hee-Haw, the NBC-TV Today Show, the David Frost Show, the Mike Douglas Show and others. In addition, Bill has been seen and heard throughout the world as a result of these appearances and also his performances on Armed Forces Radio and Television Services programs.

The Bill Anderson Show, which stars Bill Anderson and features songstress Jan Howard, singer-instrumentalist Jimmy Gateley and one of country music's top bands, the Po' Boys, draws record-breaking crowds to theatres, fairs, music festivals and concert halls. The show is one of the most popular attractions on the touring circuit. Bill and his troupe have appeared through-

out the United States and Canada, and in London, where a London Palladium audience gave him one of the greatest ovations of his career.

Bill has written hundreds of songs which have become hit records for himself and other country music stars. He has received over 30 B.M.I. awards, more than any other Country Music composer. He has been honored as Male Vocalist of the Year, Songwriter of the Year (three times) and with Jan Howard Top Duet of the Year. A Billboard Magazine poll named Bill as one of the "Three All-Time Greatest Country Music Song-writers". Among the hit songs he has composed and recorded are such popular favorites as "WHERE HAVE ALL OUR HEROES GONE", "CITY LIGHTS", "STILL", "TIPS OF MY FINGERS", "ONCE A DAY", "I LOVE YOU DROPS", and scores of others.

The lanky, personable, South Carolina-born entertainer is a former newspaperman who broke into show business when he became a disc jockey at a small radio station in Georgia. He later turned to singing and composing, landed a contract with Decca Records and was on his way toward stardom.

Today, Bill lives in Nashville, the home of country music. One of his neighbors is his good friend, Johnny Cash. When he tours, Bill and his group travel in a custom-built, luxurious bus that serves as a home and office on wheels.

## BILL ANDERSON The Po'Boy



BILL ANDERSON

### RESULTS—NOT PROMISES

**BOBBY MACKEY**, Silver Grove, Kentucky, signed with Tellet Country Records. First release Tellet Country No. 1000 "I WISH I COULD" b/w "IF I HAD AN ANGEL TO LOVE"

**BOBBY LEE**, Scottsdale, Arizona, signed with Stoneway Records. First release Stonway 1074 "YES'M, I AM" b/w "LOVE'S THE ONLY WAY TO GO"

**ERNIE TAFOYA**, Grand Junction, Colorado, signed with "D" records. First release "D" 1295 "MISTER AVERAGE" b/w "BULL OF THE WOODS"

The only thing these young artists with new releases have in common is that Eddie Noack produced them.

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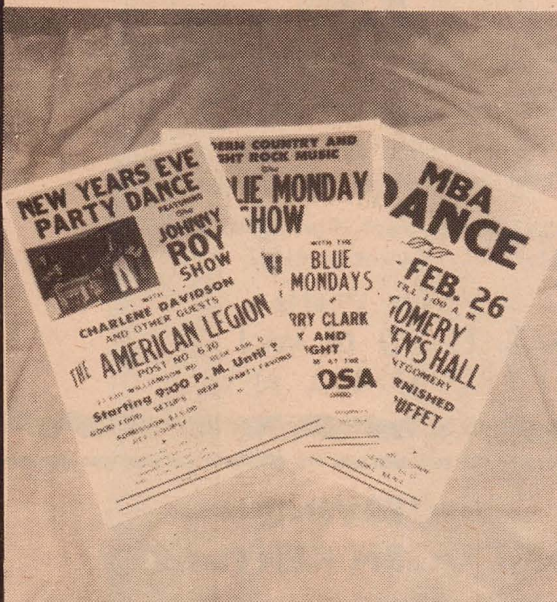
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## What's Happening At WCNW

by Johnny Wade



Entries are coming in daily for the WCNW "Mystery Artist Contest" . . . remember to listen daily for the clues if there are some of the mystery artists you are not sure about.

Nashville jtour No. 2 is happening on November 18th and 19th for a one nite affair with Music City . . . we are getting many repeats from Tour No. 1 signing up to go . . . remember, only 43 persons will be eligible to go. For further info call 874-5000 and ask for me.

And don't forget the battle of the bands . . . coming up on November 5th at the d Jr. High School Auditorium . . . area bands will be competing for a free recording session at Rusty York's Jewel Studios and 1,000 free records . . . plus Nashville Talent Hal Wayne (My Heart Is An Open Book) and the "Pour Me A Little More Wine Gal", Pat McKinney will also be on stage that day. Tickets are available at many places throughout southwest Ohio for an advance sale price of \$2.00 . . . ticket price at the gate will be 2.50. Advance sale is available at the WCNW Studios on Michael Lane in Fairfield . . . The Apple . . . The Boulevard . . . The Junction . . . The Riverside . . . The Golden Key and others.

Don and Phil Everly have announced that they will be coming back to Nashville to record . . . The Everlys have signed with RCA . . . they should have a release soon.

They will be produced by Chet Atkins . . . Chet, 17 years ago offered the boys encouragement in Kentucky to record . . .

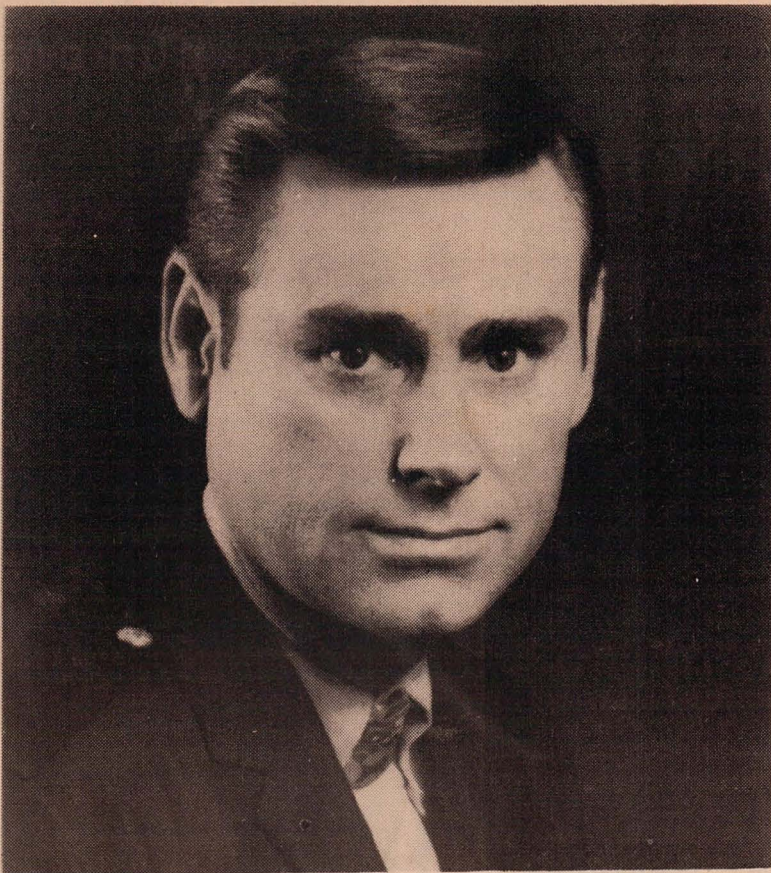
It was pleasant to hear the Jim Reeves salute on the Ralph Emery Show last week . . . Ralph had Mary Reeves as his guest talking about the life of the man with the velvet touch to singing . . . sparsed in between conversation were many great Jim Reeves songs and tape recordings of conversation with Jim, which Mary brought along from her personal collection . . .

Now let's check in with Fred Slezak in the Music Dept.

Donna Fargo hold down the number one spot again this week on the Forty Sounds of Country. "Funny Face" is also the top request getter. Merle Haggard is Number 2. Followed by Marty Robbins, Porter & Dolly, and Bill Anderson. Number 6 is Tammy Wynette's "My Man." Mel Tillis is next. Then Johnny Cash, Hank Williams Jr., and Roy Drusky. The pic hit for the week is Barbara Mandrell's new one "Holdin' On To The Love I Got." The features album — "Somebody Loves Me" by Johnny Paycheck . . . Charlie jpride, Freddie Hart and Billy Walker are moving fast . . . I'll be taking a week off next week to attend the Country Music Convention in Nashville, and will return in two weeks with notes and other things from Music City . . .

## GEORGE JONES

## The Jones Boy



The years between 1960 and 1970 proved to be THE decade for GEORGE JONES and it looks like the 70's may be even bigger for the brown-haired, brown-eyed vocalist from

Vidor, Texas. The veteran of such TV'ers as The Joey Bishop Show, Hee Haw, The Johnny Cash Show and numerous others has become one of the most in-demand artists booked through the Hubert Long Agency and the Shorty Lavender Talent Agency.

He has also done three movies . . . "From Nashville With Music", "40 Acre Feud" and "Road To Nashville" and his record hits have included "THE RACE IS ON", "WHY, BABY, WHY", "WHITE LIGHTNIN'", "SHE THINKS I STILL CARE", "4033", "WALK THROUGH THIS WORLD WITH ME", "WHEN THE GRASS GROWS OVER ME", "I'LL SHARE MY WORLD WITH YOU", "IF NOT FOR YOU", "TELL ME MY LYING EYES ARE WRONG" and "GOOD YEAR FOR THE ROSES".

The Musicor Record star is part of one of the most musical families in show business and with wife, Tammy Wynette, heads the highly sought after George Jones/Tammy Wynette Show, featuring Harold Morrison and the Jones Boys Band.

Like his attractive wife, George is one of the top award winning talents in Country music, with such honors as Billboard and Cash Box awards in 1961 and 1963 as the Number One Male Vocalist of the Year, and he has been singled out for honors by radio stations throughout America.

GEORGE JONES and wife, Tammy, with their daughter Tamala Georgette, live in Lakeland, Florida where they recently purchased and are restoring a colonial home (1900 Vintage).

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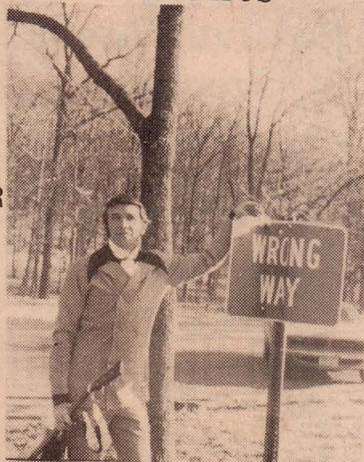
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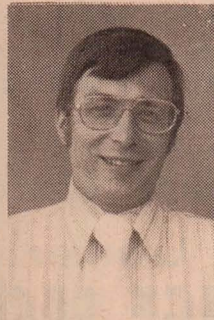
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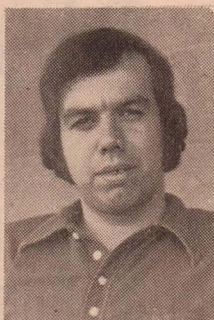
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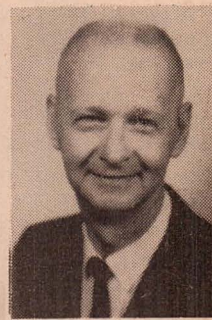
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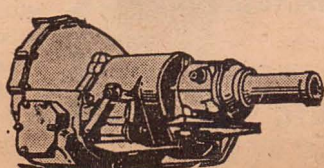
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**THIS WEEK**

1 "Funny Face"	Donna Fargo
2 "Oney"	Johnny Cash
3 "It's Not Love"	Merle Haggard
4 "Missing You"	Jim Reeves
5 "Class of '57"	Statler Bros.
6 "My Man"	Tammy Wynette
7 "The Lawrence Welk—Hee Haw Counter—Revolution Polka"	Roy Clark
8 "Sylvia's Mother"	Bobby Bare
9 "Don't Pay The Ramson"	Nat Stucky
10 "Don't She Look Good"	Bill Anderson

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## DIANNA LOWE JUST LOVES TO PERFORM

Dianna Lowe, pert Nashville sound charmer, continues to pack them in at the Tri-State's most popular country and western night club, The Club Sheridon in South Point, Ohio. Dianna is appearing with Dave Smith and the Twi-Lighters comprised of Dave Smith, George Masker, and Danny Lewis. The talent of this rising young country artist coupled with the versatile style of the Twi-Lighters provides a show that is well worth seeing. Dianna will be in Nashville October 19, 20, and 21 for the annual Dee-Jay Convention appearing at various events. This Week In Country and Western Music talked with this lovely Kentucky singer to find out some of her views on life and the country music business. We asked Dianna about her goals. "Well, I guess every artist would like to have a hit record and become a member of the Grand Ole Opry, but for now I am happy just to be able to bring people happiness through a performance". "People you know are really the most important thing to any artist's career, the fans are the real people who can and will make you a star". We asked Dianna what she liked most about country music. "It is the only music left today that people can relate to, and at the same time it is the only form of music where the artist and the audience can really get to know each other". Dianna has some definite views on what it takes to make a super star. She told us "It takes a lot of hard work, and being sincere with people, both in your profession, and with the fans that you come in contact with at appearances." What artist best fits this description in Dianna's opinion? "Well, there are many wonderful artists in country music today, but I guess I would have to say Loretta



DIANNA LOWE

Lynn". She is the one artist that remembers that once she started as an unknown young singer, and she always has the time to talk with a new entertainer". She also is really a wonderful human being, and has a sincerity with the audience like I have never seen anyone else achieve". Where does Dianna go from here? "Well, we have a lot of hard work ahead of us and in the last year I have traveled some 44 thousand miles singing where ever anyone will listen". "My husband, who is also my manager, and I are looking for material right now that would make a good first release". "Material is all important today in seeing to it that a new artist gets off on the right foot, and we also

are planning a road tour for this winter and spring because exposure is also very important". Dianna Lowe moves along the road to success with a talent and a sincerity that is indeed rare today. She has a faith to keep her always looking ahead, never backward, and an energy that seems endless. She loves what she is doing, and the people who meet her are glad that she came their way. For available dates on Dianna Lowe or Dave Smith and the Twi-Lighters contact Todd-Lo Productions, 519 Middletown Ave., Ashland, Kentucky 41101. You can also obtain information about the Dianna Lowe Fan Club by writing the same address.

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(As recorded by Donna Fargo)

DONNA FARGO

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Just one more minute that's why we moved it  
One, more hug or two  
Do you love wakin' up next to me as much as I love wakin'  
up next to you  
You make the coffee I'll make the bed  
I'll fix your lunch and you fix mine  
Now tell me the truth  
Do these old shoes look funny, honey it's almost time now  
You be careful gotta go

I love you have a beautiful day  
And kiss the happiest girl in the whole U.S.A.

Skip-a-dee-doodah  
Thank you Lord, for making him for me  
And thank you for letting life turn out the way that I  
always thought it could be  
There once was a time when I could not imagine  
How it would feel to say I'm the happiest girl in the whole  
U.S.A.

Now shine on me sunshine walk with me  
World, it's a skip-a-dee-doo-dah day  
And I'm the happiest girl in the whole U.S.A.

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## Kenny Price

## The Round Mound of Sound

When Kenny Price begins to sing or chat, folks just naturally settle back in their easy chairs and start to smile! Kenny, "the round mound of sound" who hosts Avco Broadcasting's MID-WESTERN HAYRIDE, has that special down-to-earth charm that makes people feel they've known him all their lives.

And a lot of people have! Kenny's been a familiar face on "Hayride" since 1954, when he joined the show as a member of the Hometowners group. He's been delighting audiences with his warm sense of humor and his easy singing style ever since. With talent as great as his size, Kenny has produced approximately 10 record albums and over 20 singles, with "Super Sideman," the newest album, and "You Almost Slipped My Mind," the latest single.

"I've always loved music," says Kenny who grew up on a farm in Northern Kentucky. Even when I was a little boy I seemed to have the ability to make people laugh, and all the members of my family loved

music. We spent evenings sitting around singing and playing the guitar." Today, in addition to playing the guitar, Kenny also plays drums, bass, banjo and most string instruments as well.

Planning to spend his life in farming, Kenny decided to trade his tractor for television after appearing with the Horace Heidt USO Show while serving with the Armed Forces in Korea.

"I like the country music field because of the people in it," says Kenny. "Most of them actually came from the country, and are real 'homey' people. We're all like a great big family."

Kenny's heavy schedule of personal appearances has taken him around the world. In the past year he has covered three-fourths of the United States on his weekly entertainment jaunts. "Happy Tracks," an Avco Broadcasting television special, delighted viewers as it traced the amazing activities of one of the nation's most popular country music singers.

Kenny and his wife, Donna, have three children.

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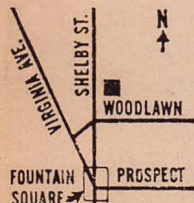
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Buy It - You'll Like It





FROM.....  
**WPFB**  
**MIDDLETOWN RADIO**

By Gary Silver

This is my first column for this weekly publication as the October 5th issue was the first one of this publication that I've read. And my belief is that this is a fine magazine because it features regional and local 'country' entertainers as well as the established nationally known artists.

Our station, WPFB, is probably the "Black Sheep" of the radio stations listed here in "This Week-----" as we are not a full-time country music station. However, the country music, when it's on the air, packs a powerful wallop, ratings-wise. Well-known and respected Dee-Jay, Paul (Moon) Mullins has more listeners than any of the other stations, Dayton and Cincinnati, included. This is taken from a report by a professional ratings company.

As most of Moon's listeners know, on his programs you can hear records that you don't get a chance to hear on most of today's "Modern Country" stations — a lot of the older records, and plenty of Bluegrass music. Most stations play the current top 40 country (billboard) over and over.

I should point out that I'm not a Dee-Jay, but have always loved country music, and one of my few talents is writing, so decided to give this column a try. Here at WPFB, my position is a "Combo" — combination engineer-announcer and I work the 3rd shift (Ugh!!!) 12 midnight to 8 a.m. However, I do have an hour country music program each Saturday morning from six to seven a.m. — who in the world is up at that hour?? Here's an invitation to tune in Saturday mornings as well as Moon's week-day program 5:30 to 7 a.m. and his afternoon program is 3 to 5:30 p.m. — he's probably one of the few people who gets up twice a day to go to work!

Moon doesn't have a survey, pick hit of the week, etc. — his most requested tune — by a landslide — is NOT a single, but a cut from an album — Tom T. Hall's newest album, the Storyteller — and the song is "The Rollin' Mills of Middletown" — though the storyline in the song is presumably fiction, the main character is a guy who came from Kentucky and got a job at the steel mill in Middletown. I like this one and another tune on the Storyteller album I'm absolutely crazy about is "Old Dogs, Children, and Watermelon Wine". You Dee-Jays, if you get a chance, take a listen to these tunes from the album.

Some other often-requested records here are: Mel Street's Borrowed Angel — Funny Face by Donna Fargo, Mel Tillis' I Aint' Never and Sweet Baby James, by a group called The Seldom Scene. Before closing, I enjoyed Leo Leriches' column in the Oct. 5th issue. I think publisher Arvey Webster has a real good country music magazine and best of luck to all concerned.

Incidentally, any of you country entertainers in this area have some news you would like mentioned in this column, you can telephone me here at the station during 3rd shift, midnight to 8 a.m. — we have a number on both the Cincinnati and Dayton exchanges. Our local Middletown number is 422-3625. Till next week, may God bless you and yours.

## THE WORLD'S LARGEST PLAYABLE GUITAR

By Curt Brock

The Harmony Company produced the world's largest playable Guitar. It stands 106 inches high or two and one-half times larger than a regular size guitar. They used 600 man hours, 11 coats of finish, 80 pounds of spruce, rosewood and mahogany to make it. The guitar has a volume of 16,000 cubic inches as opposed to the standard guitar which normally is about 1,024 cubic inches. The Harmony people spent two days hand rubbing this guitar which is authentically reproduced to scale in every detail. This guitar is on a music convention circuit and receiving considerable attention. While actually not for sale a Harmony representative implied it would have to bring around \$15,000 dollars.

short subjects

Have you ever noticed? Many guitar picker's let their fingers do the talking.

Just Released On The  
**TELLET COUNTRY LABEL**

**Bobby Mackey**

"I Wish I Could"  
B/W

"If I Had An Angel  
To Love"

Produced By EDDIE NOACK

Buy It - You'll Like It

### Split second decisions

If you have time to consider taking a chance while driving, you also have time to decide against it, says Highway Safety Director Pete O'Grady. All it takes is a split second. That split second could mean your life!

## Country Musical Miscellaneous

By Leo Leriche

Dis and Dat! Loretta Lynn early this year performed before President Nixon and Mrs. Nixon and about 100 guests at the White House in the Nation's Capital. That's quite a hop, skip and jump from Butchers Hollow. The Decca Doll gave them cold chills when she sang "God Bless America Again."

We have been getting our tomatoes this summer from the plants in the garden of my brother-in-law Ray Barlow of Union, Mo. Ray brought us love apples almost the size of the huge tire he has imbedded as his trademark in his front yard. He is a talkative jolly fellow and could easily double for the heavyweight comedian Junior Samples of "Hee Haw."

Ray and his wife, my sister-in-law Opal also look forward to this publication each week. I'll have to be out to see you soon Opal as I enjoy your good cooking. You and my wife, your sister Margaret, are the two best cooks in St. Louis and Franklin County.

A lot of items from the early career of "Pop" Stoneman have been recently donated to the Country Music Hall of Fame.

At least five song books have been published of the recorded songs of Ernest Tubb. You can buy them at Music Log Co., 53 West 70th St., New York, N.Y. 10023.

Believe it or Not: This is hard to believe but it's true and I imagine the records can be checked to prove it. The first time I ever heard a record played over the radio by the late Jimmie Rodgers was on Radio Station WIL and it was back around 1932 some 40 years ago. They had a news deal on at 2 o'clock for almost 5 minutes, then for 10 minutes they played 2 or 3 records on a program called "Old Fashioned Music Album." So even back in those days, WIL had quite a Country flavor.

Sorry to hear of the death of another idol of mine Bill Boyd of "Hopalong Cassidy" game has left us to join company of Tom Mix, Buck Jones, Fred Thompson, Wm. S. Hart and others of Cowboy fame.

I wonder what ever happened to Billy Star. He had a good hit about 20 years ago. I heard him introduce it on the stage of a local theatre one night. It was titled "Steppin Out." He was on a Hank Williams show that evening. I can recall hearing him do that number then I went out to look for the record of it a day or two later, found it and still have it in my collection. Billy Starr doing "Steppin Out" a great one.

This Al Lewis, one of the co-writers of the controversial number "The Cincinnati Dancing Pig" is no new come to this song writing profession. After looking him up in an (ASCAP) American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, dictionary which I have, I learn he has had a hand, penning such numbers as "All American Girl," "You Gotta Be A Football Hero," and the popular "Blueberry Hill."

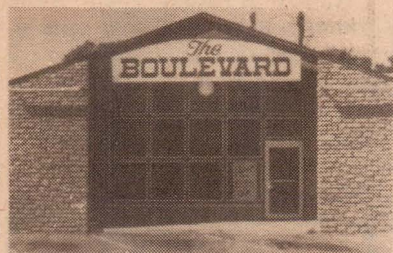
Did you know that little Rita Faye is the daughter of Kitty and Smiley Wilson? "Skyland Scotty" got the name "Scotty" from his real name which is Scott Wiseman.

Ever wonder who the Prairie Ramblers were back in the booming days of WLS National Barn Dance in Chicago They were Chick Hurt, Ken Houchins, Salty Holmes, Tex Atchinson, and Jack Taylor. Patsy Montana toured all over the USA with them.

The Georgia Wildcats were quite a group years back led by the great Fiddler Clayton McMichen. Also in that band was Hoyt "Slim" Bryant writer of the number "Mother, The Queen of My Heart."

Well that's it for this trip. So save your money and buy more Country records and I'll B. Zing you.

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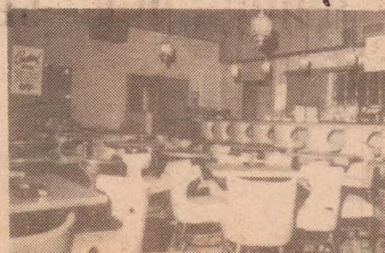
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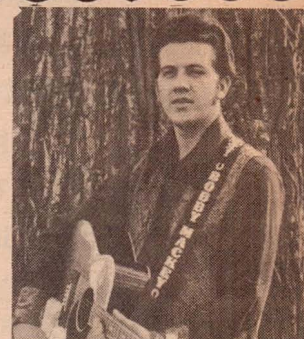
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Loretta Lynn  
SPELLS SUPER STAR

Two short years after Loretta Lynn began her recording career for Decca Records, she shot to the top as The female star in Country Music. Today she has yet to settle on the height of her stardom. Only the future knows the end of the still sky-rocketing success story this glowing performer will achieve as she takes her place in the "Milky Way of Entertainers," where only the biggest of the big and the greatest of the great are found. Loretta has been named the No. 1 female

vocalist in country music year after year. She proudly displays more than 100 awards on the walls of her country mansion in Hurricane Mills, Tennessee.

Her record sales may not total the number of stars in the sky but if one fell for each Loretta Lynn record sold, thousands of stars would be falling every evening all over the world. She has been the top selling artist for Decca Records five years in a row and four of her greatest long playing albums are nearing RIAA gold. That's not stardust!

National television is constantly reaching out for this beautiful, twinkling, blue-eyed star. Appearances include The Mike Douglas Show, The Johnny Cash Show, The David Frost Show and CBS's Hee Haw. For 7 years Loretta has been a regular feature on the Wilburn Brothers' syndicated TV'r which shows in close to 100 cities each week. Future predictions are that a Loretta Lynn Special is working in the stars. She is also a favorite Star on the World-Famous Grand Ole Opry.

Because of the strength of her box-office appeal, she is one of the highest paid artists in Country Music today. And had she started a journey to the moon when she left Nashville, Tennessee, for her first personal appearance several years ago and continued in that direction, the many miles she's traveled would have seen Loretta Lynn the first person to walk on the moon. The millions of people who attend and thrill to her performances each year are glad she chose to entertain them and keep her feet on

planet earth. This humble, brown-haired beauty is only 5 ft. 2 1/2 inches closer to the sky when standing. Each single record or album released by her is like a rocket soaring straight to the top of the popularity charts. Her albums include "DON'T COME HOME A'DRINKIN'," "YOU AIN'T WOMAN ENOUGH," "BLUE KENTUCKY GIRL," (Her home state), "BEFORE I'M OVER YOU," "YOUR SQUAW IS ON THE WARPATH," "LORETTA LYNN'S GREATEST HITS," "FIST CITY," "HYMNS" and "LORETTA LYNN WRITES 'EM AND SINGS 'EM." Some of her best-selling singles are "DEAR UNCLE SAM," "WINE WOMEN AND SONG," "TO MAKE A MAN," "WINGS UPON YOUR HORNS" AND "I KNOW HOW."

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Jimmie's songs have been recorded by such country greats as Johnny Cash, Flatt and Scruggs, Ernest Tubb, Jimmy Martin, Carl Smith, and many others. You will record in a modern 16 track studio with professional musicians. Mr. Skinner will personally contact radio stations and D.J.'s - Your songs published free. If needed Jimmie will help you rearrange your song to fit today's commercial market. Remember - Jimmie's years of experience in country music do make a difference. Deal with a man who has success and knows the right people in the music business which could mean a start in the right direction for your record. If you have talent and are willing to pay for a Recording Session, this may be your big opportunity. For information call or write Jimmie Skinner, Box 140 T.W., Fairfield, Ohio - 45014, (513) 895-1507.

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JIM WATSON

## Jim Watson A Musical Life

Jim Watson, a name that is probably known to almost everyone, and if not, should be. Jim has been playing country music a lot longer than this writer has been living. He was born on Oct. 9, 1921 in Cincinnati, Ohio, and still resides there even though his Musical endeavors have taken him to many areas and cities. Jim plays lead guitar, bass, and sings great harmony. He first started playing at the age of nine.

Jim has played with several of the all time greats in the C/W field including Earnest Tubb, Merle Travis, Chet Atkins, Carl Smith, Gene Autry, the Late, Great Red Foley, Roy Acuff and many others. Jim, along with Dolly Good, Will Laney, had their own TV Show on WKRC in Cincinnati, ranging from '49, til '51 a nineteen month total. He has played on several radio stations, WKRC in Cincinnati, WMOH in Hamilton, WPFB in Middletown, on which Jim along with the Echo Valley Boys opened up Country Music on this station which featured Bill Monroe (get this, in a tent). He has entertained on WHAS, in Louisville from the

Renfro Valley for approximately three months. Jim was the first performer to ever play an electric lead from the Renfro Valley, a guitar that is still in his possession (eat your hearts out), an Epiphone.

Jim has played one instrument or another on at least 165 different recordings with names such as Carl Smith, Merle Travis, Deb Barker, Preston Ward and others. Jim has a definite style that will make lots of people remember the all time Greats. He still uses these licks, as he plays today, they still sound good, so keep it up Jim.

Jim has done his share for the population explosion being the Father of five girls, and one boy. Jim is also from a family of six children so I guess he can say, "I matched the Old Man, anyway."

Jim has been in Country Music for a long time and he says that he intends to stay in it for a long time to come. If he means what he says it will be to everyone's delight because Jim is truly outstanding in his field.

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# Bonnie Lou LOVES PEOPLE



"She's rich in love for people, rich in talent, warmth, friendliness, and plain old-fashioned decency," says Paul Dixon about his famous sidekick, Bonnie Lou. Fans of the PAUL DIXON SHOW and MIDWESTERN HAYRIDE couldn't agree more! They've loved the pretty blond vocalist since she first came to WLW Radio in 1945, and became an immediate success on the "Hayride".

Bonnie, who is known for her yodeling, her guitar, banjo and violin playing, as well as her hilarious naivete, is equally at home crooning a Western ballad or belting out a popular hit. With show hosts Paul Dixon or Kenny Price, Bonnie plays the part of buff with deceptive wit.

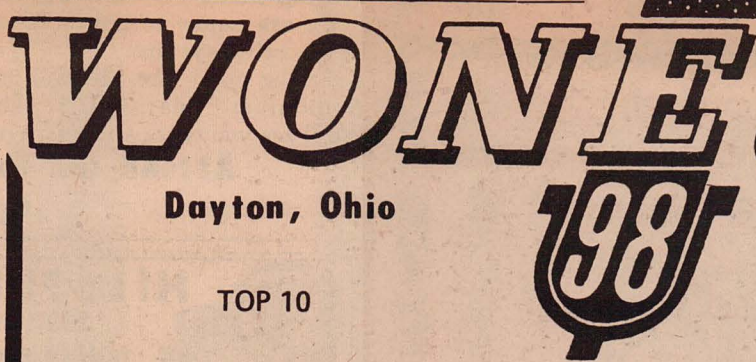
During her years with Avco Broadcasting, Bonnie has appeared on the "50-50 CLUB," the "Good Morning Show," the "Walter Phillips Show," and on WLWC's "Jamboree." For five years she presented the children's program, "Six Star Ranch" on WLWT, and has been on the Dixon Show since it first began.

Her hit records include: "Seven Lonely Days," "Tennessee Wig Walk," and "No Heart at All." She currently records for Wrayco Records and her latest release is "There's Been More Sun Than Rain."

Bonnie was born in Towanda, Illinois and began playing the violin when she was six years old. At 11, she took up the guitar and her Swiss mother taught her to yodel. She began her professional career at radio stations in Bloomington, Illinois and in Kansas City, Missouri, and also appeared with several orchestras before coming to Cincinnati.

Bonnie has one daughter, Connie Jo, who not only resembles her mother in looks, but also sings well. Bonnie's first husband, Glenn Ewins, died in 1963 as the result of an automobile accident. She has since remarried and is now Mrs. Milton Okum.

## Bonnie Lou



Dayton, Ohio

### TOP 10

- |   |                               |              |   |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------|---|
| 1 | I Ain't Never                 | Mel Tillis   | 1 |
| 2 | Funny Face                    | Donna Fargo  | 6 |
| 3 | If It Ain't Love              | Donnie Smith | 4 |
| 4 | When The Snow Is On The Roses | Sonny James  | 2 |



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## COUNTRY WIDE TUNE SURVEY

### TOP 10

- |    |                                    |                      |    |
|----|------------------------------------|----------------------|----|
| 5  | It's Not Love (But It's Not Bad)   | Merle Haggard        | 7  |
| 6  | Oney/Country Trash                 | Johnny Cash          | 5  |
| 7  | I Can't Stop Loving You            | Conway Twitty        | 3  |
| 8  | Missing You                        | Jim Reeves           | 9  |
| 9  | The Class of '57                   | The Statler Brothers | 10 |
| 10 | If You Leave Me Tonight I Will Cry | Jerry Wallace        | 8  |



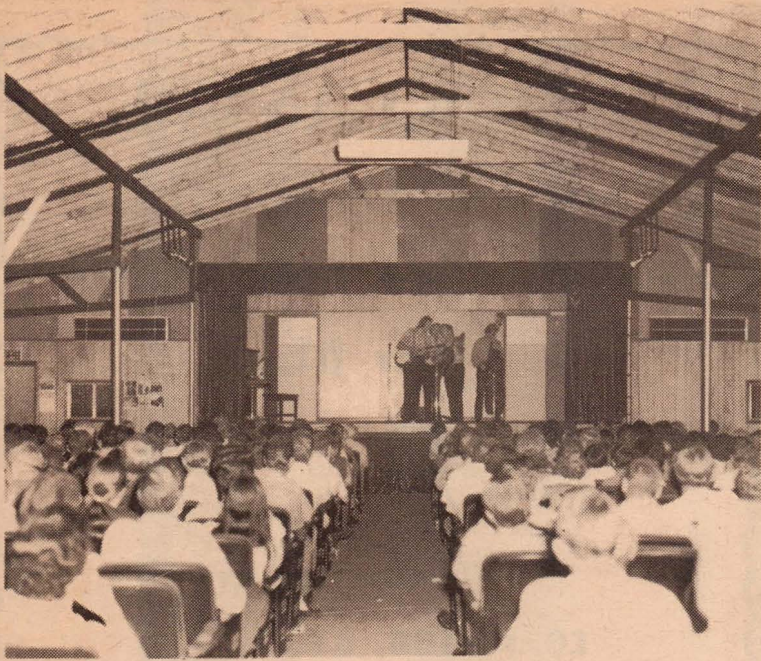


PHOTO OF INTERIOR OF MOUNTAINEER OPRY HOUSE  
AT COUNTRY GENTLEMEN SHOW

## Show Flourishes in W. Va. Burg of 1,500

MILTON, W. Va.—This town of 1,500 has built what it calls the Mountaineer Opry House, featuring country music, and is playing to more than 700 weeks.

Paul King is owner, and Eck Gibson is manager of the new showcase, which Gibson says is paying its own way. King indicates he will start construction of a 2,500-3,000 seat structure next spring if attendance continues at the present rate.

King says he visited country music establishments, big and small, before opening. He studied everything from applause and conversation to the measurement of buildings.

Gibson, a part-time musician and bluegrass band leader since World War Two, designed the

stage, sound-and-light control booth, and tape-up rooms. There is a snack-bar and record display section at the back of the hall.

Master of ceremonies for the house is Jim Roberts, disk jockey at WRDS, South Charleston, W. Va. The first act booked was the Country Gentlemen. Others include Buck White and Lonzo and Oscar. The shows are supplemented with local acts. Eventually Friday night performances may be added.

King and Gibson have worked out an agreement with a Milton radio station, scheduled to open this fall, to broadcast part of all of the Mountaineer programs.

King also does a direct promotion in the 30 minute warmup period preceding the live performance. A group may have its records played and put on sale.

## RCA'S Miss Norma Jean

"Pretty Miss Norma Jean" is the phrase most often used to describe this outstanding young RCA Records artist, and it certainly is an accurate one.

Norma Jean's commitment came when she was thirteen. That was when she traded in her bicycle on a guitar—and decided to become a country music performer. It was a longer road than she expected at the time, but today, the farm girl from Wellston, Oklahoma—and later Oklahoma City—is one of the nation's top female C&W stars.

She began her professional career in her early teens with her own 15-minute, three-times-weekly show on KLPR Radio in Oklahoma City. It didn't take long for other country artists to begin noticing her and proclaiming her as a star of the future.

In 1958 she joined the late Red Foley on the immensely popular "Ozark Jubilee" television show. A couple of years later Norma realized that Nashville was where it was all happening, made the move there, and soon joined the ranks of the Grand Ole Opry.

In Music City, ISA, word gets around pretty quickly when a new star comes on the scene. Porter Wagoner heard about Norma and after hearing her sing asked her to join his syndicated television show. Her success was instantaneous. It was Porter who brought her to RCA Records in 1963.

Norma has racked up quite a few Top 10 records for RCA and there's no sign of her slowing down. Nobody questions the fact that she's pretty, but once she starts to sing, it's the million dollar personality that starts to emerge.

## GOSPEL TRAILS

BY

WES HOWARD



We're gonna just keep singing and lovin' everybody . . . the Lord bless you Wes. Those were the closing words of the phone call this morning with Bill Gaither of The Bill Gaither Trio. Aside from the fact the Gaithers (Bill, Gloria and brother Dan) are talent plus . . . they are, in our opinion one of the most devoted groups in Gospel music today. All of this is in preparation to tell you about the best live Gospel album I have had the privilege of listening to. "The Bill Gaither Trio Live" album was recorded in four locations but for all practical purposes in Warren, Ohio at the Packard Music Hall and in Winchester, Indiana. To say this album is a hit is modest. From the first time it was played on the air here at WZIP the phones have not stopped ringing. There is something for everyone in the two record album. Theresa Cut for the youngsters, which will nudge the memories of your Sunday School days, "Jesus Loves Me." And listen to the warmth in Gloria's voice as she describes what happens when Jesus passes by. If you're a Gospel music fan, it's an album you must add to your collection. The National Quartet Convention was held in Nashville, Oct. 3-8 with old attendance records shattered. The Dove Awards presentation was held in the War Memorial Auditorium, Friday, Oct. 6. The Oak Ridge Boys took home the award for the best male Gospel group. The best mixed group was won by The Speer Family. London Paris and the Apostles took the most promising group award, song of the year was The Lighthouse, written by Ron Hinson. The Oaks scored a second time for the album of the year, "Light." Male vocalist, James Blackwood, best female vocalist, Sue Chenault of the Singing Speers. The Gospel Singing Jubilee Program won the best TV production of the year. Song writer of the year was once again won by Bill Gaither. The Quartet Convention was extended one day this year from five to six days, and has every indication that it will continue to grow.

WZIP will be out on the move several times in the next few days with remote broadcast. For those of you that are Gospel music fans let us once again remind you that you are the ones that keep Gospel music on the air by supporting our sponsors. You have been doing a fine job, just keep up the good work. We are sorry to bid farewell to Bob Stone, our weekend man here at WZIP. Bob has done a fine job for us. This was his first radio job and we all feel his move to WMOH in Hamilton is a good move to further his career in radio. We wish him the very best.

We recently received clearance from the agencies to publish articles about some of the leading talent in Gospel music and in the new few issues we'll be featuring The Sammy Hall Singers, The Kenny Parker Trio, The Downings, The Orrells, Jerry and The Singing Goffs, The Cathedrals and many others.

We are happy to report Buck Rambo is feeling better but the doctor still says that they cannot work anymore this year. And as a closing note: The Bill Gaither Trio will be performing at Taft Auditorium Friday, Oct. 27. There's one you don't want to miss. We'll see you there and again next week right here on The Gospel Trails.

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DOYLE WILBURN AND JIMMIE HELMS  
LISTEN TO PLAYBACK ON A D. J. PRODUCTION.

## D. J. PRODUCTIONS

Ever since Jack Clements produced Charlie Pride and placed the Master with RCA, countless Independent Production Companies have sprung up in Nashville, and most have done well. Recci Mareno produces Tommy Overstreet and Peggy Little for Dot, Pete Drake produces The Kendalls and several other acts, as does George Richy and Danney Davis, just to name a few. When a new artist is recorded independently its called a "speculation session" for the Master tape of four songs costing from \$1,500 to \$3,000 may or may not be placed with a label. With that kind of money involved it becomes a risky business at best.

One of the more recent Production Companies was formed in December of last year by Doyle Wilburn and Jimmie Helms. I recently visited with Doyle and Jimmie and discussed their DJ Production Company with them.

"Doyle, who had the idea to start DJ Productions?"

"John and I had wanted to start a lroduction company for some time. Its become so hard to get a new artist started in this business, most labels have all the artists they feel like they can handle. It takes a lot of time to choose the right songs and record an artist several times a year. Independent producing is the answer. With so many new Stars coming along last year I felt it was high time to get started. I ask Jimmie what he thought, he agreed, and DJ Productions got into the business of producing Master sessions."

"Jimmie, what are some of the artists you and Doyle have produced?"

"We produced Sonny Wright 'Swim The Mississippi' and '99 Years', and Carl Phillips 'Bread For Baby' and 'Mem'ries For A Dime' for Parthenon records. Then we produced Hank Beach 'America No.1' for Tramuel Music out of Detroit. We have also done sessions on Debbie Kay from Houston, Jerry Metcalf, Jerry Naill and Fran Bowen."

"Doyle just how hard is it to find songs and record an artist?"

"Well John in the first place a Top songwriter isn't going to give you a Hit song for a new artist, and why should he if he can get Conway Twitty to record the same song. We have spent six months finding four songs that we feel are Hits that fit the artist were're considering." Jimmie spoke up "I think our whole salvation has been having excess to The Wilburn Brothers Sure Fire Music Company. They have one of the best catalog's in Nashville, and not every Production company has that advantage."

"What are the latest happenings for DJ Productions Doyle?"

"Well we just place Sonny Wright with a fine new Nashville label Cutless Records. His first single is 'Gettin' Ready To Die' and 'Here Comes A Million Memories'. We're producing an album on Sonny for the label right now."

Jimmie grinned "We also just placed a great girl singer from Ohio that I think is going to be a number one artist. Her name is Fran Bowen ... and she's terrific!"

"Doyle what made you and Jimmie decide to start your own record company,

Americountry?"

"Well we found ourselves recording so many fine artists we felt some of them needed to be heard immediately. Jerry Metcalf with a song called 'Holding' and Jerry Naill with 'The Only Honky Tonk' are both doing real well for us."

"Jimmie, just who does what at DJ Productions recording session?"

"I think Doyle and I are a good team, we seem to think very much alike. I would say Doyle works best out in the studio with the musicians keeping the session going at a good pace. He has a real feel for timing and harmony. I stay in the control room and try to control the over all picture. We always use the best picker's like Hal Rugg, Jimmy Capps, Pig Hargus, Billy Linnemen, they make our job a lot easier."

"Who is your favorite producers?"

Jimmie smiled "Without a doubt Owen Bradley and Teddy Wilburn". Doyle said "I'll buy that." "Doyle, earlier Jimmie seemed a little pessimistic about an artist spending money for a speculation session, what are your feelings?"

"Well I wouldn't advise anyone that really didn't have the talent to jump and record a master session. I think they should seek the advice of someone who really knows what will compete in this business. At the very best its a gamble."

Jimmie added "John, there a few crooks on Music Row that will record anyone for a price. Of course these people are found out because its obvious if you can't sing, or have bad

material. The only point I've ever tried to stress is you should be good enough to compete with the best, and have the best songs available, or your wasting your time and money. A master session is not always the answer. We have placed artist without having to do a master. Its certainly not that its a last resort, but then it shouldn't be taken lightly either."

"If there is a secret to this business Doyle, what is it?"

"Well I'd say the most important thing today is the song. Ita ll starts and ends with a Hit song." Jimmie agreed "I think the song is the most important thing. Plus the fact that it fits the singer and you get that lucky cut."

Doyle added "You never really know till you come out of the studio ... and even then its up to those friends and neighbors out there!"

"Keep them cards and letters coming in folks!" Jimmie laughed "One of the hardest things today is getting a record played. There are just so many new artists ... and even then its up to those friends and neighbors out there&"

"Keep them cards and letters coming in folks!" Jimmie laughed "One of the hardest things today is getting a record played. There are just so many new artist ... and I mean great ones!" Doyle was quick to add "But theres always room for one more. And thats what DJ Productions is all about."

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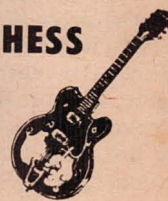
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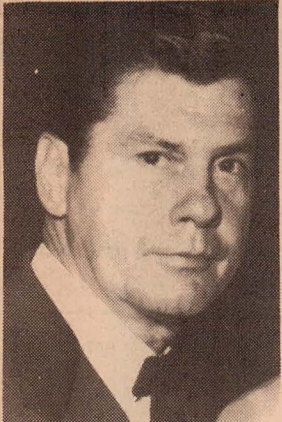
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## "OUR MAN IN NASHVILLE" PERFORMS ON OPRY

JIMMIE HELMS, who writes the "Notes From Nashville" column for This Week In Country & Western Music, appeared on The Grand Ole Opry in Nashville for the second time this year. Jimmie was on the August 26th, 11:30 portion, and did his current Parthenon Record.





# As I SEE IT



by Jim Johnson


The singsational BOBBY MACKEY! And, as I see it, "sing-sational" would certainly be the exact word Mr. Webster would use to describe this handsome new star. Bobby is the featured male vocalist for Red Jenkins & The Country Lads and appears at the Apple every Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evening.

Bobby began singing at the tender age of four years old and began playing the guitar at eight years old on a Roy Rogers guitar which his brothers had bought for him. With a talent in the family like Bobby I'm sure family get-togethers are never dull.

About three years ago Bobby appeared several times on television shows produced by WCPO-TV. He later appeared on a show televised at the Huntington, West Virginia station and recently appeared on the Ernest Tubb Record Show in Nashville.


These days Bobby is all excited . . . and for very good reason. Not only did he win the Mascot Award for top male vocalist in the Cincinnati area but he has just released a new record on the "Tellet Country" label entitled "I Wish I Could" with the flip side (which Bobby wrote) entitled "If I Had An Angel To Love". The record was produced by Eddie Noack and "Tellet Country" is owned by Lefty Frizzell and Ralph Spicer. I certainly hope that all the disc jockeys in the area will give Bobby a deserving hand with the promotion of this fine record. Watch for it!

Lookout Nashville because as most of you know this coming week is Convention Week. For you who are planning to attend, keep an eye out for Bobby as he has his bags packed and is ready to leave. Just watch for a crowd of pretty girls — for some reason they just seem to follow Bobby. Keep close tabs on this young man because he's moving fast!



....This Week  
In Country & Western  
MUSIC

DON'T YOU  
JUST LOVE IT?



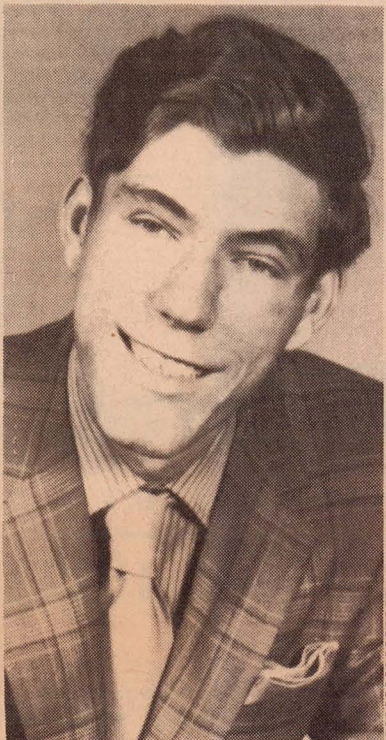


BARBARA MANDRELL



EVEN I READ  
THIS WEEK IN  
COUNTRY & WESTERN  
MUSIC

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LATEST RELEASE  
"THE BIBLE  
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## A Young Lass Named Julie

Julie Young is a new name in the country music world — but she won't be long! The lovely Alabama lass has a brand new show-land release, "Villa Of The Nude" B/W "Greatest Show On Earth". Julie has always loved country music. All reports is that this will be a big record for Julie. Who has had a couple of records previously on small labels.

Judy's break came when Bennie Hess heard her sing. He had been searching for two years for the right voice for these two great songs, and had turned many down because they didn't have the feeling for the songs and he felt they could not deliver them the way they should be. Hess has great plans for Julie Young. It's a proven fact . . . hits can be born overnight! Be listening for Julie Young's brand new release which is just now going to deejays and distributors. Remember you read about her first right here . . . you'll remember when you hear her outstanding voice and own style of singing "Villa Of The Nude" and "Greatest Show on Earth".

And from all exceptionance she has received chosen as honor for Seeburg Introduction with her record as a buying guide to the juke box trade. And also being honored by billboard as a pick honor. Then fans you can be sure Julie Young, yes is a name you don't ever want to forget. When you think of greatness and tops in the country field. The country girl with the golden voice, a voice you will want to hear over and over again and again. Julie Young is blessed with beauty, which is a great strength to her golden voice, that thousands are hearing in all parts of our world. Julie is highly accepted also in the foreign countries,



(Pictured is Julie Young with her producer, Bennie Hess, at Music City recorders where she recorded "VILLA OF THE NUDE" and "GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH".

Holland, France and the Netherlands. Julie is a girl that will be just as popular in New York as down in the far Delta country of Mississippi. Due to the high demand and nature of the song, "VILLA OF THE NUDE" is sure to be long

remembered. It's a song of action that appeals to a great variety of people. Julie Records for Show-Land Records and is

Julie is a great entertainer and has her own band. Booked through Showway Talent Agency, Inc. in Nashville.

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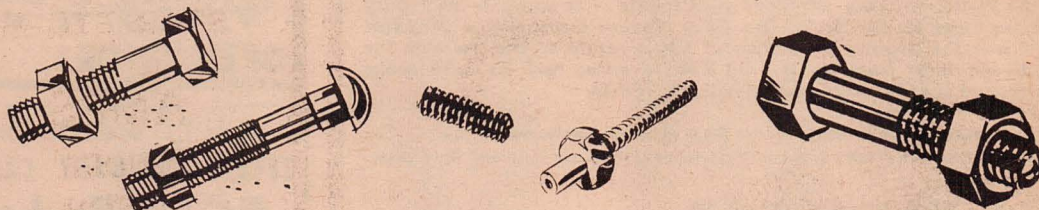


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**BELVA SHUMATE**  
**MANAGER, PROMOTER,**  
**PUBLISHER**

Country music burned deep within me at an early age. By the age of nine I was writing poetry and soon started putting it to music. Even eight years of classical piano lessons didn't take the ear for what I call real heart to heart music, away from me.

Through my teen years though, I wrote pop songs, which were sang in many school functions. I lived in an area where country music was only for "Hillbillies". Little did they know I hailed from Hazard, Ky. and certainly the blue blooded hillbilly ran deep in my soul.

Through my writing talents I was selected out of 500 applicants to be married in New York City on "Bride and Groom" CBS television. Johnny Johnston flew in from Hollywood to sing my own "Love Song" composed by me when I met my future husband.

While living in Texas I was

fortunate to help produce a children's Saturday television show, which my 7 yr. old daughter was the featured singer. All her songs were originals and soon she appeared with country bands at the Ball park, street performances etc. — As she reached her teenage years she gave up her singing career to become a professional model, while I remained in the country field.

In 1968 I met the "Bailey Sisters" from Covington, Ky. whose voices blended perfectly and the showmanship was great. I signed a management contract with them. We produced two records. I obtained my publishing company and they flew to Allentown, Pa. to appear with the Grand Ole Opry Start — We were just beginning to "get known" when Mary Jane became ill and the duet broke up.

Now I have two new artists, whom I feel, will really go far someday. Writing talents are what I enjoy most, along with my own song writing.

No one gains popularity or

success by drifting along. Success is hard Persistent work, lots of heart aches, set backs and then to one day find, you have reached your goal. No individual can reach his ultimate

without "someone to Help".

I now live and enjoy my secluded life in the woods near Burlington, Ky., It is here that I find my inspirational thoughts for songs.

RONNIE SESSIONS' brand new MGM single, "TOSSIN' AND TURNIN'" b/w "KNOCK AND RING AND TAP", due for release any day now.

## The Country Music Association Has Designated October International Country Music Month

### We Also Have:

- \* Influenced radio stations to program more country music.
- \* Established the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Country Music Foundation.
- \* Brought National attention to country music by getting President Nixon to declare October International Country Music month.
- \* Convinced national advertising agencies to use country music.
- \* More than 3,000 members throughout the world.
- \* International representation of country music.
- \* Brought country music to network TV via our CMA Awards Show.
- \* Initiated and co-sponsored the first International Country Music Fan Fair.
- \* Encouraged record merchandisers to promote more country music records.

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We will arrive Nashville at approximately 4:00 P.M. Our hotel is the beautiful NASHVILLE SHERATON which is only a few blocks from the Grand Ole Opry. Friday evening is free for activities of your choice. Saturday morning at 9:30 A.M. we leave for a sightseeing tour of Music City — see the homes of many of the stars, visit a major recording studio, and take a look at several of the many places of interest in the Music City of the World. Saturday afternoon is at leisure — at approximately 6:00 P.M. we leave for the Grand Ole Opry. Sunday morning after breakfast we'll tour the Country Music Hall of Fame, return to the Sheraton for lunch and leave Nashville at 1:00 P.M. to arrive back in Indianapolis Greyhound Bus Station at approximately 8:30 P.M.

We will make a lunch stop at the Blue Boar in Louisville on our way to Nashville. On our return trip Sunday, we will stop again at the Blue Boar, for dinner.

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Round trip transportation by chartered motorcoach.  
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## Tex Williams Mister Versatility



**TEX WILLIAMS**

Born in Ramsey, Fayette County, Illinois on August 23, some years ago, Tex attended Prairie Mound country school. He then went to high school in Bingham, Illinois, all the while playing in a small band.

When he was 13, Tex Williams had his own radio show. It ran 30 minutes once each week over WJBL in Decatur, Illinois. He sang and had a one-man-band. He spent the following year doing shows at WDZ in Tuscola, and was then bitten by the go-west-young-man-bug. In Washington state he joined a six piece band, "The Reno Racketeers."

After two years Tex headed for Hollywood where he first made a motion picture with Tex Ritter entitled "Rollin' Home To Texas." He made many movies after that with such personalities as Charles Starrett, Buster Crabbe and Judy Canova.

Tex Williams formed his famed 12 piece band, "The Western Caravan" in 1946. The same year he signed a recording contract with Capitol Records. His first releases were very successful — "Rose In My Soul" — "Leaf Of Love" — "California Polka" — "Texas In My Soul". His third release became the first record for Capitol to sell well over a million copies. It was his "Smoke, Smoke, Smoke" playing such places as the Aragon Ballroom in Chicago (this was the first western band to play there), the Orpheum Theatre in Omaha (where the show broke all previous house records), the Million Dollar Theatre in Los Angeles and the Oriental Theatre in Chicago before capacity crowds. This success

led to a repeat booking six months later.

Tex has appeared on many National TV shows, such as the Spike Jones Show, Jo Stafford Show, National Barn Dance, Grand Ole Opry, Swingin' Country NBC, Melody Ranch, Jimmy Dean Show ABC, Mid-Western Hayride, starred on his own NBC coast-to-coast show from the Riverside Rancho, and toured the Orient and Europe with Country Spectaculars.

Tex continued motion picture work, made a number of features for Universal International, made transcriptions for Capitol and Snader telecriptions, did his own weekly local television show over KRCA, and made records including duets with pop singers, Jo Stafford, Roberta Lee, Dinah Shore and Tennessee Ernie Ford.

Tex signed with Liberty Records. And recorded his great album live from the stage of the Mint Club in Las Vegas, appropriately called "Tex Williams At The Mint."

Tex left Liberty and signed with Boone Records. His first two releases remained in the national charts for thirty weeks. Tex had an album with Boone, "Two Sides of Tex Williams."

In 1968 Tex Williams left the recording industry disappointed and disillusioned. He continued personal appearances and became a Disc Jockey again. He was hired by the American Forces Radio and started his very own syndicated Tex Williams Radio Show. He was programmed in 48 countries around the world, serving over 500,000,000 listeners. He was still in show business.

In February, 1970, his buddy and former Record Producer,

Ray Pennington, called him and asked him if he would like

to become a recording artist again. This time with Monument Records. He thought it over for about 3 weeks, decided to give it a go and came to Nashville over the Easter Holidays for three sessions at Monument Recording Studios. His first release was "Big Oscar" . . . The World heard it and knew that Tex Williams was back.

All in all the future continues to look great for Mr. Versatility, Tex Williams.

Not only is Tex Williams one of the finest country singers in the business today, but he is one of the best loved people in our great land. Tex is known throughout the business for his grace and personality. Of the hundreds of personal appearances Tex has made whether it be at a rodeo or in the finest supper club, his fans enjoy his wonderful mellow tones and feel his warm personality.

Tex Williams is truly one of America's great entertainers and Monument is glad to have him on the team.



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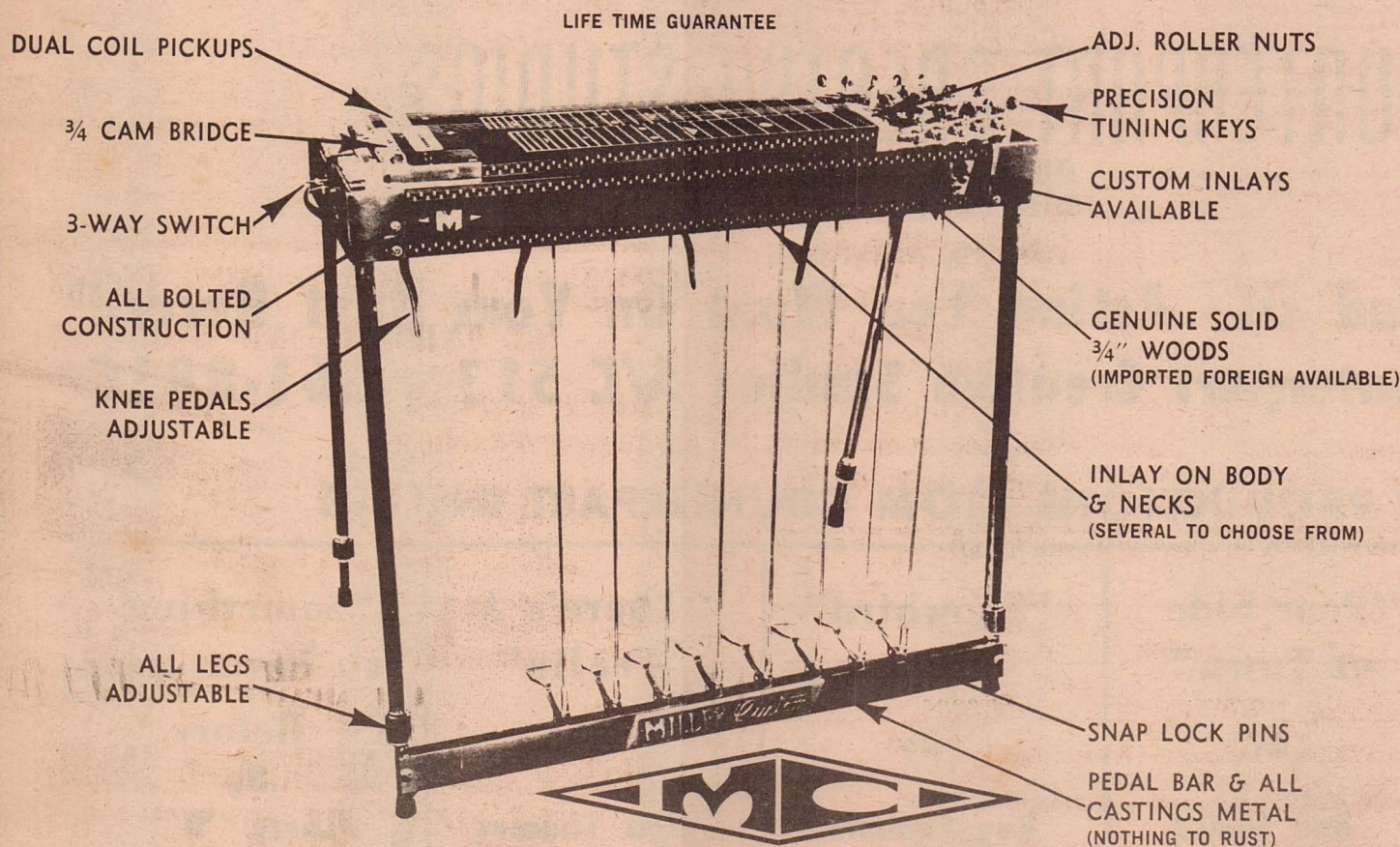
**Jim Vest &  
Bob Simmons**



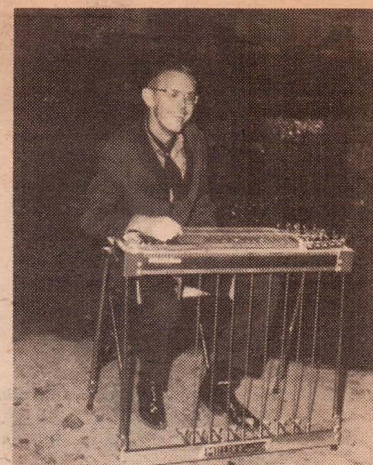
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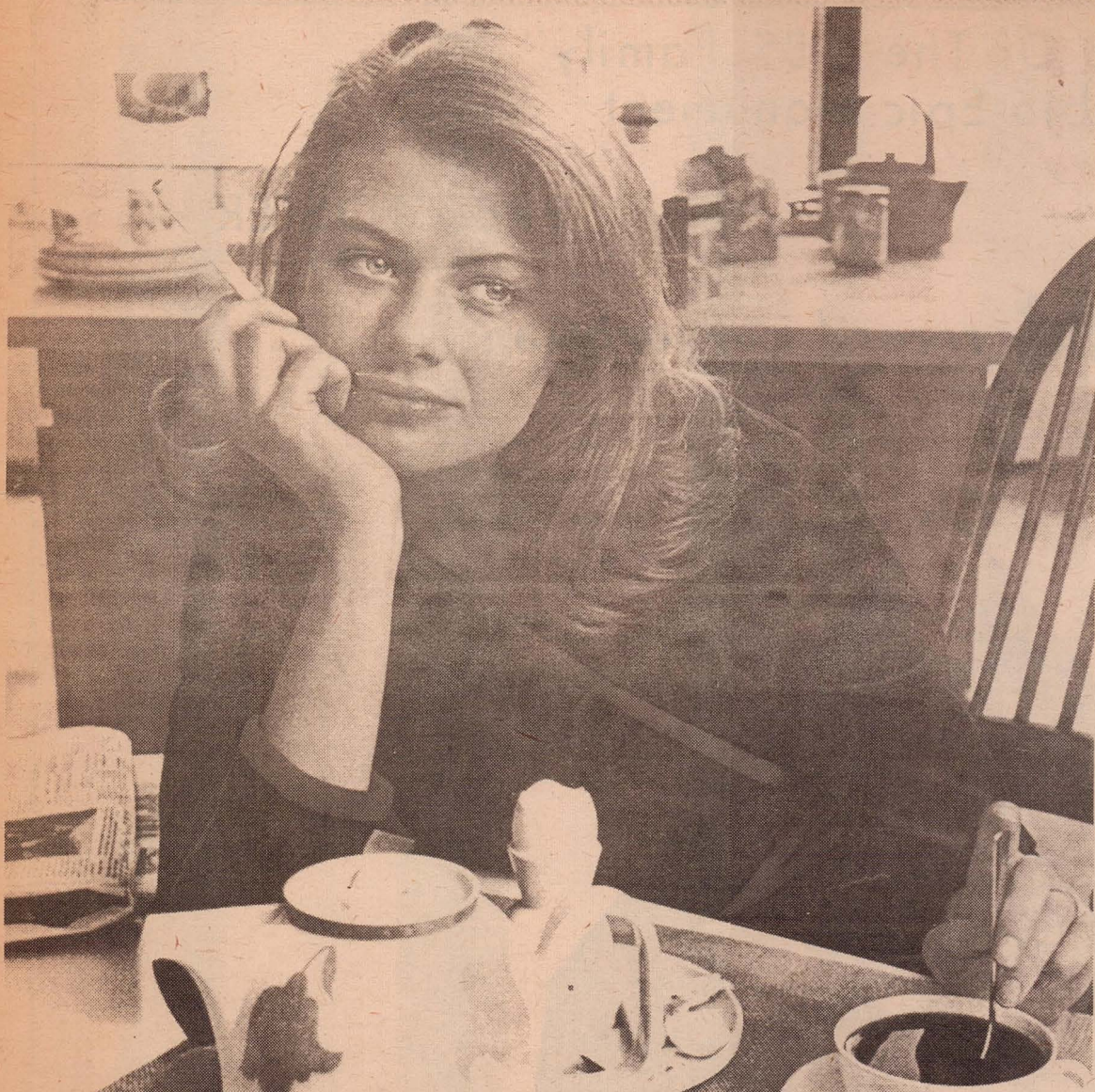
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T.J. Sinclair, co-ordinator of Mascot Awards Show — The Morning After

## Tracy Sinclair

The Real Key to Mascot Show  
Production

Tracy Sinclair, an intelligent, multi-talented young lady from the Cincinnati area took it upon herself to co-ordinate a television show, namely the "Mascot Awards Show", which was shown on WXIX-TV Ch. 19 on October 1st to kick off "National Country Music" month. A nearly insurmountable job since C&W Music publisher Arvey Webster in pleading for her help confided in her that he knew less than nothing about getting a T.V. show together.

T.J., as friends call Tracy responded in her usual confident way "Don't worry about it, I'll take care of it," and as the picture shows that was a mouthful.

This was about 2 months before the show which was to be directed by the very capable Bill Speigal was to be taped.

Before Bill could direct anything he had to have a show put together with a basic format to work from. It was T.J.'s job to provide Mr. Speigal with this basic format from which to draft the final script. But it ended up with some inclusions, such as lining up talent for the show, writing dialogue, working with the super steel man, Chuck Rich to come up with over 30

songs to use on the show, which also involved getting Chuck talked into being responsible for the music direction in the first place which Chuck handled with the professional ease of a fine artist. Tracy would call Mr. Webster for information and find him out of his office or worse, out of town, and when she did reach him their conversation would sometime be interrupted 4 or 5 times by other calls through which T.J. would wait patiently trying to get a piece of needed information.

Near the end Tracy finally in one of many exasperating conversations with C&W Music's Publisher made this observation, "Mr. Webster, you are not a liar, you certainly do know less than nothing!!"

In spite of all the obstacles T.J. came through with flying colors and the show she had put so much time and effort into, as anyone who saw it will tell you, proved in it's effect just what a great job this little ball of fire done. We would also like to thank "Maggie The Mystery Girl" for her part in this fine effort and of course all the others who helped make this production such a success.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS  
ABOUT .... This Week  
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## Pee Wee King One of The True Greats



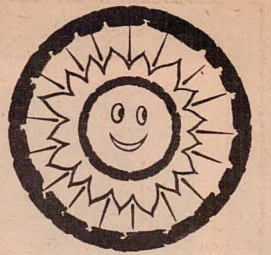
PEE WEE KING

Pee Wee King, one of the true greats of all time in Country music has in his home in Louisville, Ky. untold treasures in memory jogging paraphernalia, articles, pictures, awards, trophies and a gold record. It was nearly overwhelming to see such a wealthy reserve in Country music heritage from the start of Pee Wee's rise to the top to the present day. Hundreds or maybe even thousands of pictures, each one telling a story or recalling an event.

Pee Wee, a kind and congenial host talked little of his own accomplishments when I visited him but rather of music and it's order of business. Remembering the great ones commenting on their ups and downs and praising them all.

He promised to start a series of articles for "This Week in Country & Western Music," that would recall in the spotlight some of the great "Golden West Cowboys." The series title will be "Lest We Forget" and will appear as Pee Wee's schedule allows the free time to provide us with articles. The Golden West Cowboys was the name of the members of Pee Wee's great band that featured many great entertainers over nearly 30 years of stardom.

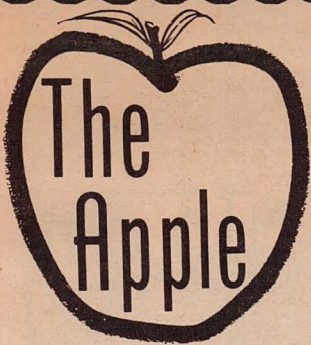
I also would like to thank Pee Wee for the tremendous job he done as emcee of the first annual Mascot Awards show. Seeing Pee Wee, along with two other living legends, Nelson King and Tex Ritter kinda' made me swallow hard a few times at the emotion packed awards show. I sure do look forward to seeing these three country music pioneers on the stage of next year's Mascot awards show.



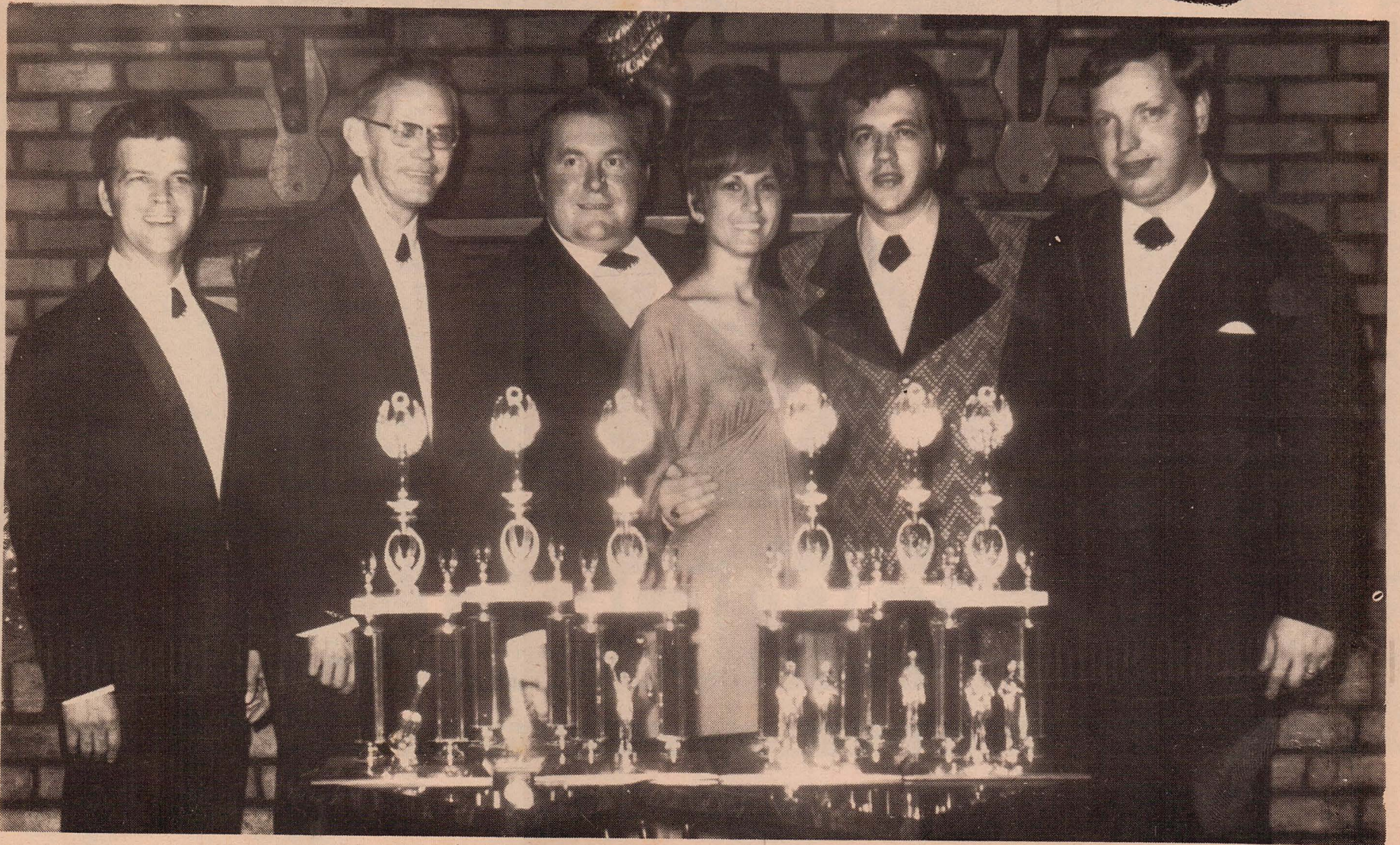
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Jim Williams**

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## Why A Weekly Country Music Newspaper?

Can you imagine what the world would be like if country music ceased to exist—if suddenly all the great sounds and songs of country music were erased from your memory. No more Wildwood Flower, no more George Jones or any of the great artists to entertain us as we drive down the highways and byways.

Think on this—The great sounds of country didn't just happen. They came only after a great effort of many people, most of them unknown. Seemingly unsurmountable obstacles were removed by pure determination, sacrifice and raw courage. The music we so love and prize highly today is a gift given to us. The dollar we pay for a recording or the energy it takes to snap on a radio button is small in comparison to the cost of the great studios and the years of preparation of the artists. No, George Jones or Wildwood Flower didn't just happen. There were many forces which brought them to us. Among them, the press, radio, environment, such as encouragement from Mom, Dad, and our friends.

It is an understatement that there are songs and music that would be hits that are starved for promotion. There are now still voices that could have been great, people who are good who could never overcome the many obstacles that stand in the way or a great song writer or singer. To keep the roof over our heads and food on the table, many hours are spent in non-creative jobs. Thus the death of songs and music before they are born.

To keep the kind of music that we love so well in existence, we must be like the prospector searching for gold. We must use every tool at our disposal, to create, to provide the kind of environment that is necessary for our good artists to be better, our better artists to be great.

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You will find many big names in this newspaper, not only local but nationally known artist's as well.

Our research shows that every area has a lot of hidden talent that should be revealed, such as: singers, songwriters, guitar pickers, etc.

Wherever Country Music is our staff will try to cover the events and keep you informed with pictures and stories.

To all Country and Western artists, club owners, promoters and fans, this is your paper. Treat it as such. We need your support all the way. Advertise in it... Subscribe to it... Send in news items, pictures, stories etc. If you know of a local artist you would like to read about, tell them to contact the editor. If you have any comments... suggestions... or

questions... we want to hear from you. Lets all pull together and the load will be lighter, the future will be brighter and we will succeed.

This is why a weekly country music newspaper. It is a tool. It is a force that will dig deep in the search for recognition of the unknown professionals.

Why a weekly Country Music Newspaper? Why not?

Lovely dark haired PAT DAISY, RCA recording artist, just signed with Buddy Lee Attractions, Inc. PAT, one of RCA'S newest discoveries, who hails from Florence, Alabama, is one of their most promising young artists. PAT'S new RCA single is titled, "BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE". Her RCA recording of "EVERYBODY'S REACHING OUT FOR SOMEONE" rose high in all the national trade magazines, which proves beyond any doubt the Alabama lass is in demand!

"We welcome PAT DAISY to our agency and will do everything possible to help further

her career," stated Buddy Lee, of the ever-growing Buddy Lee Attractions, Inc.

Eddie Wood at the Woodchuck Lounge announced that a special talent contest will be held Sunday, October 22nd, but he stressed that the professionals in the arew would not be eligible, it is strictly for amateurs, "preferably people who have never been on the stage before" says Eddie. Eddie Wood always seems to come up with a way to make the good times happen at his place on Bramble Ave. such as Hiwaiian Luau's, "Country Style" and other ingenious crowd pleasing ideas. So, if you have the urge to sing but, like me, your favorite band never gets around to inviting you up, stop out and let Eddie and his customers hear you cause they're giving a prize for a male vocalist, female vocalist and the best group and Eddie Wood ought to get a prize for "Thinkin' up ways to have fun".



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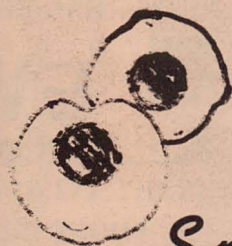
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## Jimmie Rodgers taught Bennie Hess to play guitar

BENNIE HESS, producer for SHOW-LAND RECORDS, is one of the very few men in show business who is fortunate enough to have actually had the pleasure of knowing the late and great legendary JIMMIE RODGERS. BENNIE'S most prized possessions is one of JIMMIE RODGERS' priceless guitars and a complete set

of tapes of all JIMMIE'S masters given to him by Carrie Rodgers (JIMMIE'S wife) before her death. BENNIE also holds dear some photos he had taken with Carrie, one being taken the day the benefit show was played in her honor at San Antonio, Texas shortly before her death. His devotion to the RODGERS family inspired him to write a poem for her titled,



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"THE FIRST LADY OF COUNTRY MUSIC". She was so thrilled over it that she sent it to Norma Bartel, President of ERNEST TUBB'S Fan Club, and asked them to publish it in the magazine — and Carrie's desire was granted. It was released in the magazine just prior to her death.

BENNIE'S father, Albert Festo (Cap) Hess, who was born in Tennessee, was a close neighbor to JIMMIE RODGERS' folks. They grew up together and BENNIE recalls vividly memories his dad often told him about how little JIMMIE, as a lad, would pull his little wagon down across the railroad tracks to the gin and haul the wasted cotton-seeds back to feed their stock — and how little barefooted JIMMIE loved his guitar and would play and sing for tips down in the streets of New Orleans in the gutters with water running over his little feet.

BENNIE'S father moved to Texas and later he and his buddy, JIMMIE RODGERS, were reunited when Mr. Hess helped JIMMIE get a brakeman's job on the T & N O lines. As far back as the Hess history can be traced, they were railroaders and a train whistle was 'sweet music' to their ears.

BENNIE HESS was born in a little town named Chriesman, Texas. BENNIE says it's such a small town if you bat your eyes when you go thru it — you'll miss the whole town! And the rest is BENNIE'S own story:

"We lived near the bend of the switchyard. My dad was older than JIMMIE RODGERS and when dad left his brakeman's job JIMMIE stayed on. About every other day he'd throw the switch in breaking up the train and I can remember so well he would always run over to our house and pick a cape jasmine and place it in his overall jacket and pitch a fifty cent piece over on our porch. Then he'd place the cape jasmine in his overall jacket (that was his favorite flower). Later JIMMIE boarded at our house — one of the ole country type homes," Bennie recalled.

"I was just a little fella then," BENNIE continued, "Mother and dad always slept in the fireplace room and I slept with JIMMIE. I was about four or five years old, but I remember it so well and how lonesome I'd be when he wasn't there some nights 'cause when he was there he'd sit around playing the guitar and singing 'til midnight. I'd crawl up on his lap and try to sing with him.

I thought he was the greatest person on earth. My folks knew how much I loved him and they'd let me sleep most of the day so I could stay up with him at night. I watched him closely and he started teaching me to play the guitar. Anytime JIMMIE was close by for a show he'd come by and take me to the theatre where he was going to sing. I remember several of the places so well — one was Temple, Texas (about sixty miles from our home). I'll never forget what happened that night after he finished singing at the theatre. We went to the Kyle Hotel and he tucked me in bed — but he stayed up awhile and, propping his feet on the window, he took his guitar and sang "MY OLE PAL". People just seemed to go crazy — they jumped out of their cars while they were still running and the entire town square was a mass of wrecked cars — some people even got ran over and hurt — most of the cars were Model T's and a few Model A's and Overland 90's. I've never been so scared. The police came up to our room and I just knew they would take JIMMIE to jail. But instead they just told him he'd have to quit down.

I went with him to Hearne, El Campo then Victoria, where some rich looking women in long, shiny black car tried to get JIMMIE to go for a ride. We were standing in the door of the back part of the courthouse to get out of the rain when they came up there and stopped and begin talking to JIMMIE. But he told them he couldn't go for he couldn't leave me. JIMMIE was supposed to sing at the theatre in Cameron, Texas but he didn't. And when we started to get back on the train some fella asked him if he wasn't going to sing and JIMMIE replied, 'Why, hell, there ain't enough money in this town for me to sing!'

I was only ten or eleven when JIMMIE married Carrie and left our home for the last time. It really broke my heart! And through the years of being around JIMMIE naturally I picked up some ideas and learned his likes in songs. I wrote the lyrics to some songs including "TRAIN WHISTLE BLUES" and "LONESOME, TOO" for JIMMIE. Back in those days nobody knew what copyrights or royalties were and besides, my dad just gave them to JIMMIE and I was proud just to know he would sing my songs. Later I wrote "TENNESSEE MAMA BLUES" and "I LOVE YOU YET" and gave them to him when he came by on his way to

Kerrville to his YODELER'S PARADISE home. At that time he was very ill, having just finished a two weeks engagement at the Majestic Theatre in Houston, Texas. JIMMIE knew his time wasn't long and he was determined to go back to New York and record again to leave some security for his beloved Carrie. He did learn the tune and record my songs and Carrie gave me the masters on them and I still have the master which was never released and it is 46 years old.

Twenty-three years after JIMMIE'S death I rounded up his full band and recorded "TRAVELIN' BLUES" and have a copy of it at my office at 820 — 18th Avenue South in Nashville (Showway Productions, Inc.). I've recorded many of JIMMIE'S songs but the trade magazines never gave me credit for them — they'd list JIMMIE'S name on them every time! I could talk for days about my years with JIMMIE RODGERS and never get tired. Someday I'd like to share with the world my memories of JIMMIE RODGERS, and I plan to do just that in a novel when I can find time to write it.

JIMMIE is my idol and I'm glad to have had the pleasure of knowing him," he nodded toward an arrangement of gardenias on a table nearby and added, "That's my favorite flower, too — the cape jasmine, or gardenia as some folks call 'em. To JIMMIE RODGERS they were cape jasmynes, and that's good enough for me!"

BENNIE HESS has spent his life thus far in the music business, having made the first phonograph record in Texas in 1939 — made his first stamper in a crock. He's written several hundred songs and other than the recordings he'd done himself, he has had 152 of his songs recorded. BENNIE was on Mercury label several years and had two of the top hits at one time listed in the Billboard, and was one of the top stars at the Louisiana Hayride. For years BENNIE had one of the biggest and best bands around, THE NATION'S PLAYBOYS. One time he needed a good lead guitar player and was told there was one near Nederland, Texas — and that's where he found the well known entertainer, GEORGE JONES, who played in his band quite awhile. It was during that time that GEORGE first started singing to crowds.

Surrounded by his world of memories and walls filled with pictures and articles of his seven year old son, TROY HESS (who became 'The World's Youngest Recording Star' at the age of only three), BENNIE HESS spends his time searching for good talent for Show-Land Records, and outstanding material for his two publishing firms, Grand-wealth Music Company (BMI) and Showay Music Company, Inc. (SSCAP).

BENNIE HESS moved to Nashville three years ago and has, in that short time, become one of the most well known and most respected producers in the country music industry. Busy as his schedule is, somehow BENNIE always finds time to spend a few minutes with that new songwriter or new artist who is attracted to the orange wagon-wheel sign that stands outside at Showay Productions, Inc. at 820 — 18th Avenue South in Nashville. He gives them advice regarding their songs or recordings, and if he can't help them ... he won't hurt them! BENNIE HESS is certainly an asset to Music City!

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## Tribute to Hank Williams Jr.



By Dorothy Hess

HANK WILLIAMS, JR. is one of the greatest young country music entertainers of our time. HANK, JR. and his band, THE CHEATIN' HEARTS, which features LAMAR MORRIS, travel in his bus, making more than 200 personal appearances annually, including Europe. HANK, JR. is so much in demand that he is booked many consecutive days on many of the dates. His show consists of something for everybody — ballads, comedy and spiritual songs.

The six foot-one HANK, JR. sometimes appears shy upon first meeting someone. But when he walks across the stage in his handsome western attire, he really "comes alive". He plays the guitar, fiddle, piano, base — just about any musical

instrument you can name, he plays. His show is exciting from the moment he walks on stage until he says goodnight. His show is a clean family-type show. HANK, JR. is the type of entertainer any mother would feel proud for her own son to pattern his life after.

HANK, JR. considers himself very lucky to have been the son of the great and late HANK WILLIAMS, SR. HANK, JR.'S first MGM recording "STANDING IN THE SHADOW" was penned by him about his father and it was a national hit! However, HANK, JR. does not try to 'ride' on his daddy's name. It's quite true that all the millions who loved the voice of HANK WILLIAMS, SR. cannot help but hear something of the great singer in the voice of

his son, HANK, JR., and they are his fans also. But HANK also has thousands of fans who did not know HANK, SR. and some who were too young to remember how popular the late HANK WILLIAMS, SR. really was! HANK, JR. himself was too small to really remember his famous daddy, having been only four years old when HANK, SR. left this world.

HANK WILLIAMS, JR. was born in Shreveport, Louisiana on May 26, 1949 and was only three months old when the family moved to Nashville.

As he grew up, his father was an inspiration to him through his recordings, his songs and the countless stories about his all-too-brief career.

By the time he was 14 HANK JR. was a polished performer who had already appeared on The Grand Ole Opry. For six years his mother, Audrey, helped him break in gradually, beginning with appearances on her famous "Musical Caravan of Stars".

He could already play an astonishing variety of musical instruments including piano, harmonica, drums, banjo, bass and just about any kind of guitar or other stringed instrument. But even as he developed poise in the stage spotlight, his school work always came first. He got small doses of show business during vacations and holidays and at first he received only featured billing. Star status came as he earned it through dedication and hard work.

HANK, JR. expresses himself more and more in his own songs — the way he feels and sees life — just as HANK, SR. did. HANK, JR. played on the same stage with the unforgettable RED FOLEY the night that great gentleman gave his last performance. The next morning FOLEY was dead of a heart attack. Saddened, HANK, JR. put his feelings into music and the result was a song that he wrote and recorded, "I WAS WITH RED FOLEY (The Night He Passed Away). That was appropriate. Undoubtedly HANK, JR. remembered that it was RED FOLEY who sang "PEACE IN THE VALLEY",

with tears streaming down his face at the funeral of HANK WILLIAMS, SR.

It was unthinkable that anyone but HANK, JR. should do the voice of HANK WILLIAMS, SR. for the movie "YOUR CHEATIN' HEART". His voice on the soundtrack of the MGM film helped actor GEORGE HAMILTON bring HANK, SR. to life again for millions of fans. HANK, JR. received a gold record for this.

HANK, JR. also starred in MGM's movie, "A TIME TO SING", along with the lovely SHELLEY FABRES. Working with her and the great ED BEGLEY and other outstanding actors and actresses was a rewarding and educational experience for HANK, JR. and the soundtrack provided him with another hit album.

Some of the top TV network shows HANK, JR. has performed on include THE ED SULLIVAN SHOW, JOHNNY CARSON'S TONIGHT SHOW, JOEY BISHOP SHOW and the MIKE DOUGLAS SHOW.

After HANK WILLIAMS, JR.'S first MGM hit single, "STANDING IN THE SHADOW", many others followed which include the following No. 1 records for the MGM recording star: "IT'S ALL OVER BUT THE CRYING", "I'VE GOT A RIGHT TO CRY", "I'D RATHER BE GONE", "CAJUN BABY", "ALL FOR THE LOVE OF SUNSHINE", and "ELEVEN ROSES". HANK, JR. has many albums to his credit also, including one titled "SONGS MY FATHER LEFT ME" which has been a hit seller, and "ELEVEN ROSES" is his latest hit album. His brand new MGM single, "PRIDE'S NOT HARD TO SWALLOW", penned by Jerry Chestnut, looks like it's going to be a giant for the dynamic entertainer and singer also!

HANK WILLIAMS, JR. and wife, Gwen, reside in Nashville and expect their first child in December. If it's a boy — no matter what they name it, it will no doubt be tagged "LITTLE HANK".

HANK WILLIAMS, JR., an avid sportsman and hunter as well as a great entertainer, enjoys spending as much time as possible between engagements, at the ranch he and lovely wife, Gwen, own in Jane, Missouri, near Gwen's hometown.

HANK, JR. is booked through Buddy Lee Attractions, Inc. in Nashville and Buddy Lee is his personal manager.

We couldn't pay tribute to a greater star!

JEAN SHEPARD'S husband, Benny Birchfield, presented the songstress with a beautiful new wedding band to celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary. Benny is the leader of JEAN'S band, THE SECOND FIDDLES, that backs her on all of her engagements. Between engagements, JEAN and Bennie are redecorating their lovely home in Hendersonville. Also JEAN is looking forward to attending some of the Little League baseball games. Her son, Don Robin (Donnie), was on the No. 1 Little League Baseball Team last year and she reports that it already looks like they might hold that position again this year.

When MEL TILLIS taped the syndicated MIKE DOUGLAS on September 27, ZSA ZSA GABOR was also on the same show. MEL was supposed to appear only a few minutes, however, MIKE DOUGLAS was so impressed with the lines ZSA ZSA was feeding MEL, and MEL'S stuttering answers, that he kept MEL on camera during the entire show. After the show MIKE remarked to MEL that it was certainly refreshing to see such a well groomed and well mannered band (referring to MEL'S band, THE STATE-SIDERS). That was on Wednesday, and the following Monday morning MEL'S office received a request from MIKE DOUGLAS to add his name to the MEL TILLIS FAN CLUB!

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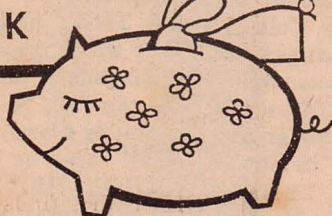
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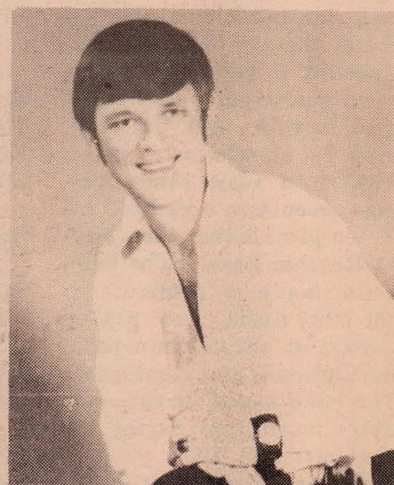
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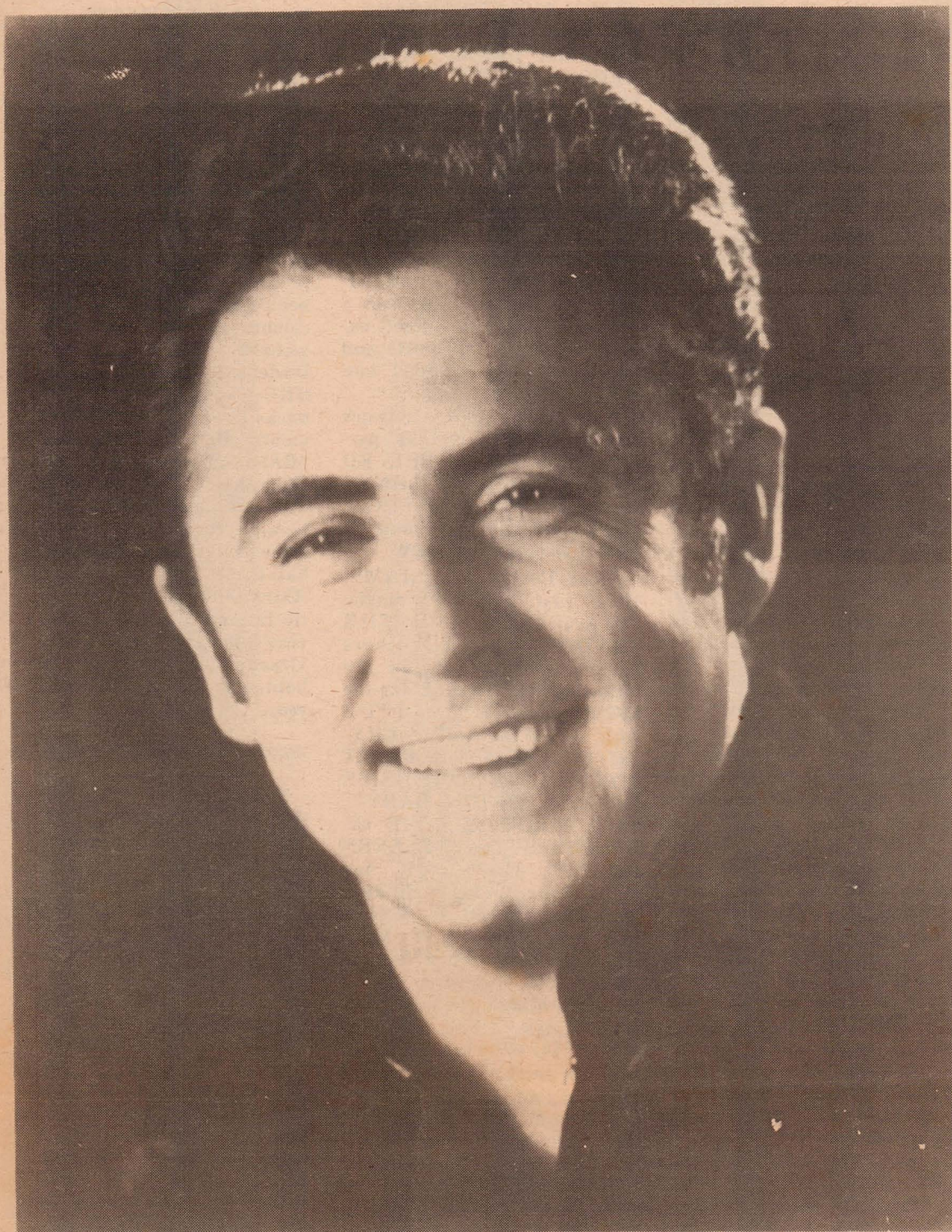
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A singer since childhood, Ray comes by his talent naturally enough. Born in Clay County, Kentucky, on a small, hillside farm, he grew up in a musical atmosphere. Ray's father taught singing at one of the county's churches, and he had Ray singing harmony almost before he could talk.

At an early age, Ray and his folks moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, where Ray sang in every school program and play that he could. Not unlike other great music industry talents, Ray decided at the age of fifteen that he needed a guitar. A pretty shrewd businessman, he traded for a bicycle, and, in turn, traded the bicycle for a guitar.

Two short years later, Ray, at age seventeen, organized his own ten-piece band, the "Mid-west Rhythm Boys." The band shortly made a professional name for itself, and played dances and shows throughout Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky.

The band began its career in country music, but during the period around 1957 country music found itself in a small decline in the area. So, to stay commercial and busy, the band changed its format and adopted rhythm and blues. And they were just as successful. Several years later, country again ar-

rived on the scene, and Ray Pennington and the "Mid-west Rhythm Boys" returned to that musical genre. For Ray that was a happy change. He had, since his earliest musical days, enjoyed the love of the music of the land, "real music" as he called it.

In 1959 Ray began another music industry career as a & man for King Records in Cincinnati. He also recorded for King, country songs as Ray Pennington and r&b selections as Ray Starr.

Unable to stay away any longer, Ray journeyed to Nashville in 1964 where he signed as an exclusive writer with Pamper Music. It was at Pamper that Ray began carving out his career from his own ability and talent. During that first few months in Nashville, Ray had a hit song going for him, "Three Hearts In A Tangle." The song, recorded by Roy Drusky and other country music artists, was on its way to becoming a standard.

Soon to follow were other Pennington penned numbers; "The First Step Down (Is The Longest)," "Happy Tracks," and "Walking On New Grass." From that point Ray obtained a Capitol Records contract and achieved success as a singer, now added to his successful endeavors as writer and music industry executive. He also delved into production work for Boone Records, and he has been a co-producer on the Kenny Price releases.

During the year 1968, Ray's career took another turn for the better, and he joined Monument Record Corporation. To use a bit of musical jargon, at Monument Ray came into his "own thing, his musical bag."

His first release on the Monument label, "Raining In My Heart," received instant success and excellent nationwide airplay, promising a long line of Ray Pennington hits on the Monument label.

Fred Foster, Monument president, has one of the greatest track records in the business for picking hit makers. And his move to sign Ray Pennington further enhances that record of successes.

Ray Pennington has been closely aligned with music since his childhood. He has gained tremendous success in every phase of the industry — writing, producing, and singing. That first Monument release may have had rain in its heart on the record label, but it promised sunshine for the Ray Pennington career at Monument.

THE COUNTRY CAVALEERS, along with TEX RITTER, PEE WEE KING, JUSTIN TUBB and many other artists taped the MASCOT AWARDS SHOW on WLW-TV in Cincinnati, Ohio on September 25. BUDDY GOOD, one-half of THE COUNTRY CAVALEERS, celebrated his birthday on September 29.

## TROY HESS

### Worlds Youngest Recording Artist



#### HESS

TROY HESS is seven years old and has his seventh release "PLEASE DON'T GO TOPLESS, MOTHER" b/w "YOU OUGHTA SEE PICKLES NOW" on the Show-Land label. TROY has been recording and performing more than half his life. He became the 'world's youngest recording star' at the age of only three when the Texas youngster recorded, "I WANT DADDY FOR MY BIRTHDAY" b/w "PRECIOUS MEMORIES OF YOU, DADDY" on the Janalyn label. The record was aired first by Ralph Emery on his WSM Opry Star Spotlight all night radio show. Troy also appeared on Ralph's afternoon WSM-TV show the next day because Ralph was so impressed with the young star and asked him to remain over for his show. He also sang on Ernest Tubb's Midnight Jamboree that weekend.

TROY played his first engagement immediately upon returning to Texas. He entertained at a credit union banquet at the Ramada Inn in College Station, Texas for \$25.00. He was so small he had to stand in a chair to play his little guitar and sing. From that day forward, it has been one engagement after the other — one recording session after the other. He has entertained at the G. Rolle White Coliseum at Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas; Plantation Ranch in Liberty, Texas where he entertained over 8,000 crippled children (one of his greatest thrills); KPRC-TV in Houston; KTRE-TV in Lufkin, Texas; Variety Club, Bryan, Texas; Belle Meade Country Club in Nashville; Blue Grass Country Club in Hendersonville; Community Center in Madison; World of Country Music in Water Valley, Mississippi; Piney Woods Christian Academy in Bellville, Georgia and numerous politician campaign rallies.

TROY treasures an auto-

graphed photo sent to him by Neil Armstrong, first astronaut to walk on the moon. TROY's Christmas record titled "CHRISTMAS ON THE MOON" mentions Neil, and Troy sent Neil's son, Mark, one of the records. In turn, TROY received an autographed picture from Neil, which has a special place in one of his many scrapbooks pertaining to his engagements and things of interest.

TROY has a very brilliant mind, and has become the world's youngest songwriter, having composed his seventh song, which he titled simply "MONEY TREE". He began composing the song when he was still living in Texas and visiting Nashville. Parked in front of the Music City News Building while his father was inside talking with Mr. Bob Woltering, the young star began talking about a money tree he'd seen in a Dallas, Texas bank. His mother had told him he couldn't have the money tree — so he began singing about it. Quickly she jotted down the lines he was singing. Ironically, quite some time later little TROY recorded the song at the same place he composed it... the Music City News Building, in the National Sound Studios (which wasn't a part of the building at the time he was composing the song). At the fan fair TROY had a huge Money Tree which drew attention from thousands of fans who attended the fan fair. Needless to say, it is among his very favorite songs of all those he has recorded!

TROY HESS is a dynamic young entertainer who puts action into every word he sings, and he holds the children as well as the parents spellbound with his magnetism. Folks who see his shows will travel far to see him again and again!

TROY is the youngest act booked through Buddy Lee Attractions, Inc., and Showay Talent Agency, Inc. in Nashville.